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Colonies GENERAL

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ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES

1893-94

Colonies General

31



SHANNON · IRELAND

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

SIXTY-THREE VOLUMES.

—(10.)—

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS;
COLONIAL REPORTS.

Session
31 *January* 1893— 5 *March* 1894.

VOL. LIX.

1893–94.

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1893-94.

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No. 76.

BAHAMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 44.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
July 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-26.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

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MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 76

BAHAMAS.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 44.]

Sir A. SHEA to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Nassau, N.P.,
May 8, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book for 1892.

Imports and Exports.

2. The imports and exports both show an increase on the previous year of 6,731*l.* in imports, and of 17,126*l.* in exports. Both the sponge and fruit export were greater than in 1891, but I adhere to my often expressed opinion of the uncertainty of the fruit industry, from the various contingencies to which it is exposed in its growth, in the transport to market, and the growing competition of Cuba and Jamaica. This view is impressing itself on the minds of the people, and there is an increasing desire to engage in the fibre cultivation which they see has so many encouraging conditions. Still, while I urge on them the hazard of dealing with fruit as their sole dependence, I do not, by any means, wish that they should abandon its cultivation.

Revenue.

3. The revenue for the year was 56,704*l.*, being 3,890*l.* over that of the previous year. I see no reason to doubt that the revenue of the Colony will continue to show a steady advance, especially in and after the year 1895, when the fibre export will be the leading feature in the returns.

Crown Lands.

3. The revenue from Crown lands was 1,171*l.*, being 419*l.* less than in 1891. The actual sales have been small, the privilege of obtaining land at a rental being generally availed of by large purchasers. The whole amount for land disposed of in the past four years, cash payments and capitalised value, is 27,436*l.* The amount held by the Crown Agents at interest is 1,594*l.*, 10*s.* 11*d.* and 1,500*l.* is in the hands of the Receiver- General in Bahamas Debentures.

I · 76870. Wt. 10230.

Salt Pond Fund.

5. This fund shows a steady decline. There are some fixed charges on it, and the revenue has gone down to a very small point. Nothing better is to be expected while prohibitory duties on salt are maintained in the United States. The amount on the 31st of December was 1,344*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* as against 1,444*l.* at the credit of the fund at the end of the previous year.

Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

6. This fund was in debt to the Colony, 7,949*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* on the 31st of December 1892. The debt is fast increasing and without a prospect of arresting it. It seems idle to continue charging interest on this account and the law requiring it should be repealed. The amount disbursed in 1892 was 2,391*l.*5*s.* 6*d.*, and 300*l.* only received. It has not yet been found practicable to establish a fund for the future of this exigency, but in no case could it be made to assist in reducing the obligations contracted under the system that has been allowed to expire.

Post Office Savings Bank.

7. The amount of investments on this account in the hands of the Crown Agents on the 31st December was 7,205*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, which cost 7,188*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* The liabilities were 7,642*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*, showing an excess of liabilities over assets of 452*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, being a reduction of the deficiency in last year's account of 106*l.* This deficiency is part of the late Postmaster Clare's defalcations, but it will be gradually paid off by the working of the bank.

Joint Stock Bank of Nassau.

8. This bank continues to operate with much success and with benefit to the community. Its nett profits last year were 27 per cent., from which it paid a dividend to stockholders of 10 per cent. and carried 17 per cent. to its reserve.

Public Debt.

9. The funded debt has been reduced by the sum of 600*l.* paid off during the year. It now stands at 80,526*l.* In addition there is the debt for account of the telegraph cable of 30,000*l.*, making in all 110,526*l.* Of this amount, 32,400*l.* were issued by the Crown Agents in England, and the balance, 78,126*l.*, is held in the Colony.

Legislation.

10. Twenty-two Acts were passed in the session of the year 1892. They have all been reported on by the Attorney-General,

and are none of them of any special significance. One Act, 55 Vict. Chap. 13, "To amend the Stamps Act, 1877," was disallowed by Her Majesty's Government.

Population.

11. The census of 1891 gave a population of 47,565. During the year 1892 there were 1,889 births and 1,229 deaths, the latter showing a rate of 27·3.

Sponge Fishery.

12. In this industry there was an increase from 49,696*l.* in 1891 to 65,554*l.* in 1892.

Salt.

13. In this article the export is slightly over that of 1891, being 1,978*l.* as compared with 1,705*l.* in the previous year.

Fibre Cultivation.

14. The area of Crown land acquired for this industry is about 70,000 acres, of which nearly 12,000 acres are already under cultivation in various stages of progress. From the present agencies at work, it can be safely estimated that 5,000 acres per annum will continue to be added to the operations. There need be no special effort to dispose of the balance of the land now ungranted, within the prescribed limit of 100,000 acres: as the increasing experience of the value of the fibre enterprise will assure the sale of the available land in good season. I do not feel that I can add much to what I have stated on this subject in former reports in which the views I expressed are being fully confirmed by experience, and I can confidently assert that none of the investors would, if they could, withdraw from the enterprise, and there is no diminution of the confidence with which it was undertaken. The small shipments that went forward in the past year satisfied every expectation on the score of the excellence of the fibre and its market value, and as shipments increase, and the article becomes more extensively known, there is little doubt that it will establish a stable position in the fibre market. It is now generally conceded that it will enter considerably into the manufacture of various fabrics, and that, for some time to come, but a small portion of the production will be used for rope making. Indeed the prices that have been hitherto paid indicate clearly that other uses have been found for our fibre, for the rates have gone well above the quotations for Manilla. This industry would seem to have become established just in time to meet a change of condition which is menacing the

means of support of the poorer classes of the population. It is now admitted that the droughts are longer than before, in the past two or three years; and the corn, yams, and other crops, on which the labouring people had been accustomed to rely for a large portion of their food, have been, to a great extent, a failure. The impression is forced on them that on fibre cultivation alone can they rely with confidence, and a considerable movement in this direction is consequently observable. To enable these small operators to act with advantage, a good deal must be done to instruct and assist them, and well-ordered co-operative effort will be required to make their undertakings a success. With the large proprietors, the work of progress is defined and unimpeded, and the whole interest is wisely guarded for the future, in the law, now made permanent, by which the export of plants from the Colony is strictly prohibited.

Fruit Cultivation.

15. The export of pine-apples in 1892 amounted to 56,000*l.*, as against 46,000*l.* in 1891. The returns, however, were unsatisfactory and left a loss to exporters. This will probably be felt in the coming season; and the trade has a new element of uncertainty in the apprehended visitation of cholera to the United States.

The competition of Florida, and the want of due care in packing and shipping oranges, militate much against the value that might be realised in this branch of employment; but I still believe that the increase of intelligence and capital, with which the Colony is being favoured, will have a salutary influence in the future on this branch of the available resources of the Colony.

Shipping Returns.

16. The following tables present an abstract of the shipping returns for 1892:—

Sailing Vessels Entered (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	174	10,559	1,129
In ballast - - -	32	2,263	198
Total - -	206	12,822	1,327

Sailing Vessels Entered (Foreign).

——	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	83	7,347	449
In ballast - - -	69	6,207	423
Total - - -	152	13,554	872

Sailing Vessels Cleared (British).

——	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	171	10,409	1,210
In ballast - - -	34	1,435	191
Total - -	205	11,844	1,401

Sailing Vessels Cleared (Foreign).

——	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	138	11,176	811
In ballast - - -	13	1,769	73
Total - -	151	12,945	884

Steam Ships Entered (British).

——	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	27	50,787	777
In ballast - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	27	50,787	777

Steam Ships Entered (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	75	95,221	3,480
In ballast - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	75	95,221	3,480

Steam Ships Cleared (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	23	43,310	618
In ballast - - -	2	1,568	61
Total - -	25	44,878	679

Steam Ships Cleared (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	75	92,001	3,462
In ballast - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	75	92,001	3,462

These returns show a decrease of 2,459 tons in sailing tonnage, and an increase of 33,390 tons in steam tonnage, as against those of the previous year.

Education.

17. There are 39 Government schools, in which the number of pupils on the rolls is 5,318, and the average attendance is 3,249. The amount expended was 4,800*l.*, no fees being paid. There are also 10 aided schools, with 803 pupils on the rolls, and an average attendance of 425; the contribution of the Government to these schools was 148*l.*

The Church of England have 35 schools unassisted, with a roll of 1,659 pupils, and there are 45 private schools with a roll of 1,559 pupils.

The Training Institute for Teachers, opened in March 1892, and upon which the amount expended was 414*l.*, has a roll of 12

students, and the Nassau Evening School, attached to the Institute, upon which 32*l.* 10*s.* was expended, numbers 47 pupils.

Criminal Statistics.

18. There were, during the year 1892, 2,401 persons brought before the Magistrates' Court, of whom 394 were discharged for want of prosecution or want of evidence, 527 were cases dismissed on their merits, 1,414 were summarily convicted, 66 were committed for trial in the Superior Court, where judgment for the Crown was given in 28 cases.

Prison.

19. The total number of persons committed to prison in 1892 was 242; being 132 men, 92 women, and 18 juveniles; of these, 76, 60, and 6, respectively, had been previously convicted.

The average daily number of prisoners was 49 as against 42 in the previous year.

Hospital and Insane Asylum.

20. The daily average of patients in hospital for 1892 was 79. There were 79 patients remaining at the end of 1891, and 240 patients were admitted during the year. Eighty-nine patients were discharged as cured, 62 as relieved and 6 not improved. There were 87 deaths.

A contract was entered into in 1892 for the building of a new hospital within the area of the present hospital and poor asylum. This building, which will provide ample and spacious accommodation for patients and should meet all probable requirements, will shortly be completed and ready for occupation. This long pending question is, consequently, now satisfactorily disposed of at a much smaller cost than was at first contemplated.

There were 18 lunatics admitted into the asylum in 1892. Four were discharged cured, 6 relieved, and 7 died. The average daily numbers in the asylum were 18 males and 9 females.

Meteorological Observations.

21. The rainfall for 1892 was 37·12 inches, the lowest rainfall for some years. Easterly winds prevailed for 116 days. The mean air temperature at 9 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. ranged from 72·5 Fahr. and 74·3 Fahr. in March to 85·6 Fahr. and 85·7 Fahr. in July.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. SHEA,

Governor.

The Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,

&c. &c. &c.

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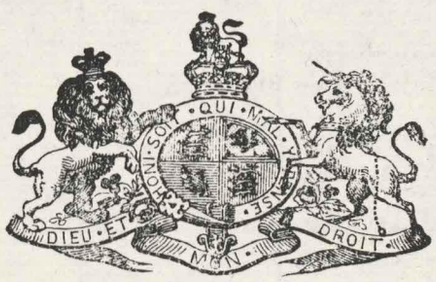
No. 83.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 42.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-33.]

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49	Gibraltar	1891
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55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
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80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 83.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 42.)

Sir J. S. HAY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
June 14, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892, and enclose the Report thereon which has been furnished to me by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. S. HAY.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I., C.I.E.
&c. &c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1892.

Taxes and Duties.

1. The taxes and duties leviable in the Colony remain almost unchanged. The only alterations worthy of note are (1) that "The Rum Duty Act, 1892," makes the sum payable for a license to keep a still for the manufacture of rum 30*l.* instead of 35*l.*, and (2) that the allowances to Her Majesty's military forces stationed in this island, in lieu of exemptions from duty, have been increased. This increase, viz., of 3½*d.* per diem to officers and 1½*d.* per diem to sergeants, was the outcome of a representation made by the military authorities to the Government that in view of the increased duties on wines and spirits under "The Customs Tariff Act, 1892," a corresponding increase should be made to the Military Duty Allowances. An Act was accordingly passed by the Legislature amending the Military Duty Allowance Act to the extent already mentioned.

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Finance.

	£	s.	d.
2. The balance on 1st January was -	46,275	8	7½
The receipts during the year were -	162,663	17	4
Total - -	208,939	5	11½
The expenditure during the year was -	199,129	18	2½
Balance on 31st December - -	£9,809	7	9

3. The revenue of 1892 was 1,242*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* less than that of 1891, but was 1,876*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* in excess of the estimate. Under import duties there was a falling off of 7,749*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, for which the operation of "The Customs Tariff Act, 1891," passed in consequence of the United States McKinley Tariff Act, is accountable, as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Loss under "The Customs Tariff Act, 1891" - - - -	12,236	15	6
Gain under "The Tariff Act, 1892," increasing duty on wines and spirits -	2,779	13	4
Total loss - -	9,457	2	2
Gain on increased importations -	1,707	12	8
Loss on import duties - - -	£7,749	9	6

4. The expenditure for the year was 36,467*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.* in excess of the revenue, but in order to compare the two fairly the following items of expenditure must be deducted:—

New lunatic asylum 23,500*l.*, Bay Street improvements 12,062*l.*, revision of the laws 1,346*l.*, total 36,908*l.*, when the ordinary expenditure will be found to be 442*l.* less than the revenue. Rejecting similarly the extraordinary expenditure of the year 1891, the expenditure of 1892 was 8,216 less than that of 1891.

5. The following tables give the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as compared with the three previous years:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Excise.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1892 - -	92,340	28,919	41,404	162,663
1891 - -	99,780	25,298	38,827	163,905
1890 - -	116,415	30,517	39,247	186,179
1889 - -	111,438	26,206	37,076	174,720

Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1892 - -	73,253	125,876	199,129
1891 - -	*78,249	98,551	176,800
1890 - -	68,960	112,675	181,635
1889 - -	65,896	80,210	149,709

* Salaries for 13 months.

Public Debt.

6. The Public Debt is 30,100*l.*, and the sinking fund to redeem it now amounts to 9,799*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

Local Revenues.

7. The total amount of revenue raised by the parochial vestries during the year, including the legislative grant of 5,450*l.* for the upkeep of roads, was 50,362*l.* The parochial expenditure amounted to 53,784*l.*, of which 39,917*l.* was expended in poor relief and the upkeep of churches, chapels, and schools, and 13,867*l.* on highways. These amounts are based on the returns sent in for the year ended 31st March 1892. No returns were received from the parish of St. George.

Military Expenditure.

8. The expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for military purposes in the Colony was 56,316*l.*, or 2,130*l.* more than in the previous year.

Public Works.

9. The New Lunatic Asylum, which was in course of construction in 1891, was rapidly proceeded with during the year and is now completed, and was formally opened by the Governor on April 5th 1893. This building has been erected departmentally and reflects great credit on the Superintendent of Public Works, under whose personal supervision the work was carried out.

10. The revised scheme for harbour improvements, for which a loan of 200,000*l.* has been authorised, is still under consideration.

Legislation.

11. The Legislative Session of 1892–93 began on the 26th April 1892, and ended on the 25th April 1893. 48 Acts were passed during the session, and of this number 22 received the Governor's Assent in 1892. The following are the most important :—

"The Prevention of the Spreading of Infectious Diseases Act, 1892."
"The Immigration of Paupers (Prevention) Act, 1892."
"The Rum Duty Act, 1892."
"The Poor Relief Act, 1892."

12. The Legislature was much engaged during the Session in passing consolidated laws for the revised edition of the Acts of the island which will shortly be issued.

Political Franchise.

13. The political franchise of the Colony is regulated by "The Representation of the People Act, 1891." A general election was held on 25th April 1892; there were contests for the seats for the City of Bridgetown and the rural part of the parish of St. Michael, and for the parish of St. Peter.

Councils and Assemblies.

14. The Executive Council and Executive Committee were the same as in 1891.

15. *House of Assembly.*—Mr. B. Inniss was elected *vice* Mr. J. C. Lynch for the city of Bridgetown. Mr. J. T. Jones was elected *vice* Mr. W. W. Gowdey for the parish of St. Andrew and Messrs. C. J. Greenidge and R. L. Culpeper *vice* Messrs. J. H. Weatherhead and W. T. Kellman for St. James. In St. Thomas' parish Mr. W. N. Phillips resigned his seat and Mr. Thomas Parris was elected in his stead.

Civil Establishment.

16. His Excellency Governor Sir W. J. Sendall was appointed Governor of Cyprus, and Sir J. S. Hay, who had been acting, was appointed and sworn in as Governor of the Colony on April 1st 1892. Major-General Paton, C.M.G., administered the Government from the 18th June to the 14th August, during which period Sir J. S. Hay was absent on leave.

17. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., was absent from the island on duty from the 12th September till the 4th November Mr. John S. Howell acted.

18. The Auditor-General, Mr. C. A. King-Harman, C.M.G., was absent from the island on leave from the 2nd July to the 18th December; Mr. L. J. Patterson acted.

19. The Comptroller of Customs, Mr. P. L. Dillon, was absent on leave from the 20th July to the 16th November; Mr. Robert Dickson acted.

20. Mr. T. W. McKinstry, Actuary of the Savings Bank, died on the 12th July, and Mr. C. G. Howell was appointed.

Police Establishment.

21. Mr. H. H. Haynes, Inspector of Police, and Assistant Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, died on the 19th of February, and Mr. C. J. Lawrance was appointed in his place.

Judicial Establishment.

22. Mr. H. S. Thorne was appointed Police Magistrate of District "C" *vice* Mr. A. St. J. Watts resigned; Mr. M. J. Berkley was appointed Police Magistrate of District "D" *vice* Mr. W. H. Whitehall, deceased; and Mr. W. W. Gowdey was appointed Police Magistrate of District "E" *vice* Mr. Naboth Greaves, resigned.

Prison Establishment.

23. Mr. Geo. T. White, Governor of Glendairy Prison, was absent from the 4th June to 4th December; Mr. C. J. Lawrance acted from 4th June to 13th July, and Mr. W. H. Bailey from 14th July to 4th December.

Ecclesiastical Establishment.

24. The Rev. G. D. Gittens, Rector of St. Lucy, resigned, and the Rev. W. C. Watson was appointed. The Rev. Jas. Lowry was appointed Vicar of St. Matthews *vice* the Rev. Canon G. M. Clinckett, resigned.

Pensions.

25. Pensions were granted to the Rev. G. D. Gittens, Rector of St. Lucy, 210*l.* 5*s.* per annum; Rev. Canon G. M. Clinckett, Vicar of St. Matthew, 120*l.*; Charles Evelyn, Commissioner of Probates, 62*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*; A. St. J. Watts, Police Magistrate, 133*l.*; Naboth Greaves, Police Magistrate, 204*l.* 6*s.*; J. E. Moore, a schoolmaster, 10*l.* and Edward Hall, police constable, 5*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*

Population.

26. The population as per census of 5th April 1891 was 182,306, divided according to colour thus:—Whites 15,613, coloured and black population 166,693.

27. The number of baptisms during the year was 6,993, or 38·42 per 1,000; of marriages 1,224, and of burials 3,729, or 20·48 per 1,000. Births therefore exceeded deaths by 3,264. The following table gives a comparison with former years:—

Year.	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Burials.	No. of Deaths per 1,000.
1889	7,399	980	6,261	34·7
1890	7,419	1,056	5,000	27·6
1891	7,769	986	6,794	37·3
1892	6,993	1,224	3,729	20·4

28. Owing to local circumstances and to the temperament of the people, the number of baptisms and burials are practically identical with the number of births and deaths. Still-born births do not appear in any part of the above returns.

Savings Bank.

29. The transactions of the savings bank during the year are shown in the annexed comparative table:—

Year.	No. of Depositors on 31st December.	Amount deposited during the Year.	Amount withdrawn during the Year.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.
		£	£	£
1887 - -	7,763	62,151	51,393	77,946
1888 - -	8,364	77,047	60,146	97,210
1889 - -	9,067	106,741	81,311	125,708
1890 - -	9,716	106,229	100,773	134,521
1891 - -	9,936	89,565	94,293	123,284
1892 - -	10,446	86,293	79,322	133,712

30. The reserve fund at the end of the year was 5,312*l.*, which, added to the amount on deposit, make the total funds of the bank 139,024*l.*, invested as follows:—

	Nominal.			Actual.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Mortgages on landed property - -	10,859	3	5½	10,859	3	5½
English Consols - - - -	17,182	4	7	17,171	19	5
New South Wales Stock - - -	18,149	9	11	18,370	18	9
South Australia Stock - - -	7,000	0	0	7,358	15	0
Victoria Stock - - - -	6,559	18	10	7,061	13	4
Natal Stock - - - -	1,178	6	3	1,117	15	4
Cape of Good Hope Stock - - -	3,690	11	5	3,990	18	9
Ceylon - - - - -	9,575	5	5	9,784	4	9
Canada - - - - -	17,321	5	4	16,515	11	7
Barbados Government Debentures - -	26,000	0	0	26,000	0	0
Loans to parishes - - - -	1,500	0	0	1,567	10	0
Deposit receipts in Colonial Bank - -	17,100	0	0	17,100	0	0
Current account do. - -	1,826	11	11½	1,826	11	11½
Balance in hand - - -	243	1	8½	243	1	8½
Balance in hands of Crown Agents - -	56	12	9	56	12	9
Total - - - - £	138,242	11	7½	139,024	16	9½

Education.

31. *Elementary Schools.*—The number of schools receiving Government aid was 202, one more than in 1891; there were 61 primary, 30 combined, and 111 infant schools. The number of pupils on the books was 20,732, and the average attendance in all the schools 15,240, an increase of 1,616 upon the average attendance for the previous year. The expenditure from the Colonial Treasury for salaries to teachers of elementary schools was 9,019*l.*, an increase of 76*l.* over the expenditure in the preceding year.

32. *Second Grade Schools.*—There were four second grade schools, viz.:—Combermere School, Bridgetown, with 119 pupils; Coleridge School, in the parish of Saint Peter, 42 pupils; Alleyne

School, Saint Andrew, 24 pupils; and Parry School, Saint Lucy, 35 pupils.

33. *First Grade Schools and Colleges.*—Of the first grade schools, three in number, Harrison College, a boys' school, had 139 pupils. The staff consists of a head master and eight assistant masters, all University men; the Lodge School, also a boys' school, with a staff of a head master and two assistant masters, all University men, had 40 pupils; Queen's College, the only public girls' school in the island, conducted by a head mistress and six assistant mistresses and a music master, had 148 pupils. Codrington College, affiliated to Durham University, had 21 students.

Reformatory and Industrial School.

34. The number of boys at this school on the 1st of January was 119; 37 were received during the year and 40 discharged, leaving the number at the close of the year to be 116.

35. The total cost of maintenance per boy, excluding the salaries of the staff, but including provision, clothing, furniture, tools, and implements, hospital and medicine, &c., was 6*l.* 12*s.* 3½*d.* per annum, or 1*l.* 1*s.* 3¼*d.* per boy per annum more than in the previous year.

Ecclesiastical.

36. There are 11 parish churches, 33 chapels and one chapel school, making a total of 45 places of worship of the denomination of the Church of England, with accommodation varying for from 2,000 persons at the St. Michael's Cathedral to 140 at St. Catherine's in St. John's parish. The total average attendance was 13,957 in the morning and 12,710 in the evening.

37. The places of worship of other denominations were 23 in number; average attendance in the morning 6,780, in the evening 7,960. Of these, 18 were Wesleyan chapels, 4 Moravians, and one Roman Catholic.

38. The endowment of the Church of England from the general revenue is 10,353*l.*, and allowances are made to other denominations as follows:—

	£
Wesleyans - - - - -	700
Moravians - - - - -	400
Roman Catholics - - - - -	50

making the total endowment of the Church 11,503*l.*

Imports and Exports.

39. The following table shows the values of imports and exports in 1892, as compared with those of the previous five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Increase.	Decrease.	Exports.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - - -	983,187	119,696	—	1,063,397	323,486	—
1888 - - -	1,058,491	75,304	—	1,074,583	11,186	—
1889 - - -	1,211,370	152,879	—	1,029,588	—	44,995
1890 - - -	1,193,723	—	17,647	1,204,390	174,801	—
1891 - - -	1,067,617	—	126,106	814,254	—	390,136
1892 - - -	1,081,571	13,954	—	926,572	12,318	—

40. The direction of trade was as follows :—

Imports.

Country.	1892.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	469,317	432,637
British Colonies - - -	195,855	207,185
United States of America - -	337,953	377,948
Other Foreign Countries - -	78,446	49,847

Exports.

Country.	1892.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	119,168	74,605
British Colonies - - -	273,894	261,765
United States America - - -	500,919	445,175
Other Foreign Countries - -	34,591	32,709

41. The following comparative tables show the quantities and values of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Colony in the years 1891 and 1892.

BARBADOS. 1892.

Quantities and Values of Principal Articles imported in the years 1891–1892.

Barbados. Imports.		1891.	1892.
Principal Articles.			
Bread, navy, pilot and crackers	Lbs.	4,360,721	4,075,377
	£	19,623	18,339
Butter	Lbs.	708,633	839,522
	£	26,573	30,012
Coal, mixed preparations thereof and coke	Tons	18,028	23,487
	£	18,028	23,487
Corn and grain	Bushels	326,233	276,239
	£	64,334	50,996
Fish, dried	Quintals	80,676	77,113
	£	48,405	46,276
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels	71,676	74,271
	£	89,595	92,838
Indian corn meal	Barrels	46,822	37,507
	£	35,116	28,130
Linens and cottons	£	130,544	128,690
Lumber	Feet	9,957,736	8,258,432
	£	29,873	24,539
Manure	Tons	13,287	12,913
	£	88,118	114,148
Meat, salted	Lbs.	2,777,976	1,087,406
	£	34,725	13,592
Rice	Lbs.	20,406,013	16,901,901
	£	85,025	70,424
Oil, kerosine	Gallons	360,592	365,230
	£	11,268	11,413
Staves and shooks	Pcs.	2,736,163	2,399,641
	£	24,625	21,596
Spirits	Gallons	79,648	63,619
	£	16,376	14,647
Tobacco	Lbs.	162,904	191,160
	£	8,396	8,498
Total value of Imports	£	1,067,617	1,081,572

Quantities and Value of Principal Articles exported in the years 1891–1892.

Barbados. Exports.		1891.	1892.
Principal Articles.			
Fish, dried	Quintals	46,654	37,479
	£	27,992	22,487
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels	22,437	18,151
	£	28,046	22,688
Molasses	Puncheons	32,318	43,356
	£	100,994	135,487
Meat, salted	Lbs.	643,518	550,787
	£	8,044	6,885
Rice	Lbs.	5,680,348	9,596,018
	£	23,668	39,983
Rum	Gallons	3,198	677
	£	239	50
Sugar, Raw	Hhds.	48,186	56,619
	£	481,860	566,190
Total value of principal and other articles exported	£	814,254	926,572

Shipping.

42. The total number of vessels entered and cleared in 1892 was 2,451, with a tonnage of 1,247,259 tons; of these 692, with a tonnage of 968,629 tons, were steam vessels; and 1,759, with a tonnage of 278,630 tons, were sailing vessels.

43. The following tables show the countries from and to which vessels entered and cleared in 1892 as compared with 1891, distinguishing sailing from steam vessels:—

Entered.

Countries from whence.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.
Great Britain	36	32	130	133	14,796	10,856	207,974	200,234
United States America	61	96	50	42	25,365	29,460	47,070	40,987
British North America	88	106	10	9	12,743	15,354	9,726	10,309
British West Indies and Guiana	508	578	137	116	29,063	31,400	186,834	161,176
Foreign West Indies	49	80	1	2	3,707	5,392	642	3,216
Brazil	65	53	10	3	28,778	25,612	11,502	4,968
Others	74	79	9	9	27,195	28,008	21,667	21,481
Total	881	1,024	347	314	141,647	146,082	485,417	442,371

Cleared.

Countries to which.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.
Great Britain - -	11	7	40	36	4,708	4,778	76,850	68,727
United States - -	91	117	27	30	44,317	51,286	27,349	32,735
British North America	99	100	12	6	21,658	19,751	13,985	6,520
British West Indies and Guiana - -	551	627	255	228	45,681	44,733	356,270	321,692
Foreign West Indies -	74	109	9	8	12,924	16,503	7,955	7,152
Other countries - -	52	65	2	6	7,695	10,430	803	5,545
Total - - -	878	1,025	345	314	136,983	147,481	483,212	442,371

Criminal Statistics.

44. The total number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1892 was 4,788, or 291 less than in 1891. The average for the five years 1883–1887 inclusive is 4,005 ; that for the five years 1888–1892 inclusive is 4,533.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

45. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1892 was 12,229, or 927 more than in 1891; of this number 2,959, or 24·19 per cent. of the whole number, were acquitted. The total number of convictions was 9,193, viz., 98 in the superior courts, and 9,095 summary convictions. The convictions in the superior courts were thus 4 less, and the summary convictions 902 more, than in 1891.

46. The number of offences against the person in 1892 was 883, as against 629 in 1891. This is more than the five years' average, which is 686, and exceeds the number reported in any of the five years from which an average has been obtained, *i.e*, 1888-1892.

47. The number of cases of prædial larceny reported was 1,013 ; this is below the five years' average, which is 1,049, and is 531 less than the corresponding number for 1891.

48. The number of offences against property other than prædial larceny was 1,324, or 265 less than the corresponding number in 1891. It is, however, a little more than the five years' average of

1,306, and is greater than the corresponding number for any of the five years save 1891.

49. Other offences numbered 1,568, being 251 in excess of the number in 1891.

Gaols and Prisoners.

50. The number of male adult persons committed in 1892 was 1,855, being 186 less than in 1891 ; the number of male juveniles was 62, being 16 less than in the previous year.

51. The number of female adults was 1,726, being 30 less than in 1891 ; 16 female juveniles were committed, being 21 less than during the previous year.

52. Thirteen prisoners were released on ticket of leave, earned under the mark system, and were paid gratuities. One convict was pardoned by the governor on the medical officer's recommendation. One male prisoner was hanged.

53. The discipline maintained among the male prisoners was good during the year, only four prisoners received corporal punishment; 157 persons were punished for malingering, which was as usual, the chief offence ; cases of persistent malingering, however, are now rare.

54. In previous years great difficulty was found in maintaining discipline among the female prisoners, owing to the impossibility of separating notorious bad characters, but in 1892 the extension to the female prison was completed, thus enabling the separate system to be introduced, and making it possible to enforce the punishments awarded by the governor of the prison. The general behaviour of the prisoners was good.

55. The profit realised by the cooperage was 67*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* This is an increase as compared with the amounts realised in 1891 and 1890, which were 35*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* and 54*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* respectively, but when compared with the profit in 1889, which was 425*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, makes but a very low figure.

56. Seventy-two mattresses were made for the General Hospital out of cocoanut fibre, which is supplied by the hospital authorities ; no charge is made for the labour.

57. The sanitary condition of the prison was good during the year. Thirty-three male prisoners were treated in the prison hospital, 5 of whom died ; 23 female prisoners were also treated in hospital, only one of whom died. The prevailing disease was dysentery.

Agriculture.

58. The following table shows the amount of sugar, molasses, and rum, which are the three principal products of the island, exported in 1892, as compared with the three previous years:—

Year.	Sugar.		Molasses.		Rum.	
	Hogsheads.	Value.	Puncheons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
		£		£		£
1889 -	65,268	667,330	44,818	140,056	3,422	256
1890 -	85,261	869,575	51,904	162,200	95	7
1891 -	50,547	517,275	32,318	100,993	641	48
1892 -	59,349	605,640	42,968	134,275	612	47

Health.

59. The health of the island throughout the year was very satisfactory; the latter half was remarkably healthy, possibly due to the energetic sanitary measures undertaken by almost all the Sanitary Boards in view of the possibility of a cholera epidemic being introduced, such as was at the time raging in many parts of Europe. Dysentery and typhoid fever were the diseases most prevalent.

C. C. KNOLLYS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Barbados,
13th June 1893.

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No. 62.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891-92.

(For Report for 1890-91, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 20.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

C.—6857.-12.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
26	St. Helena	1890
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–2

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 62.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1890-91, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 20.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 24, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident Commissioner, reporting on the affairs of Basutoland during the past year.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Sir M. Clarke.

It gives me much pleasure to again call attention to the able and efficient administration of Sir M. Clarke, and to the excellent service rendered by the officers of the Basutoland Administration generally.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
August 8, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on British Basutoland for the year ending the 30th June 1892, together with reports from—

The Acting Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
Do. Maseru.
The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.
Do. Quthing.
The Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.

I 74020. Wt. 10230.

(2.) Early in the year under report it was plain that the health of Letsie, the Paramount Chief, was failing, and certain individuals took advantage of his weakness to perpetrate, in his name, acts of oppression and injustice. In October, I had the opportunity of representing this and attendant circumstances to the High Commissioner, whom I met by appointment at Kokstadt, on his visit to Griqualand East, and, with his Excellency's sanction, I pointed out at the annual Pitso, held early in November, that it was unfair to hold a Chief in Letsie's state of health responsible for acts which might endanger the well-being of the community, and called on Lerothodi, the eldest son of Letsie, to relieve his father from burdens he was no longer fit to bear. At this time I received an assurance from the elder sons of Letsie, and from the Chiefs Jonathan Molapo and Masupha, that, in the event of Letsie's death, Lerothodi's claim to the succession would be undisputed.

On the 20th November Letsie died, and shortly afterwards I received a letter, signed by the 24 principal Chiefs in Basutoland, stating that, according to his position by birth, to Basuto custom, and to the implied wish of Letsie, Lerothodi ought to succeed his father, and requesting me to submit these views, through the High Commissioner, to the Queen. On the 6th January I received a telegram informing me that Her Majesty was graciously pleased to accede to the representation of the Basuto, and that Lerothodi was to be acknowledged as Paramount Chief in place of his father.

This decision was communicated to the Basuto at a National Pitso held at Maseru, on the 5th February, at which all the principal Chiefs in the country were present or represented.

(3.) In February a long outstanding dispute as to the right of ploughing on commonage in the mountains led to a collision between the people of Bereng and Maama Letsie; four men were killed, and a number of cattle captured. I directed Lerothodi, who had promptly stopped the fighting, to cause the cattle captured to be restored to their owners. He succeeded in doing this, in spite of much opposition and the luke-warm support of his following, and on the 6th April I, with Lerothodi and Masupha, tried Bereng and Maama for breach of the peace, found them both guilty, and fined the former 200 head of cattle, and the latter 100 head.

(4.) While this case was being tried, a disturbance, which threatened serious complication, broke out in the Berea district, between Lebese, a son of Masupha, and Peeta Ramanella. In compliance with orders sent by me in conjunction with the Paramount Chief, fighting stopped, and on the 4th June I and Lerothodi heard the case, and fined Lebese for breaking the peace.

Though some of the Chiefs continue on bad terms with their neighbours, no further fighting of any consequence has taken place.

(5.) The illness and subsequent death of Letsie and the opposition of some of the leading Chiefs seem to have for the present damped the aspirations of the Basuto for a consultative council.

(6.) The Chiefs continue to render valuable services in the detection and checking of crime and in the maintenance of order.

(7.) The mounted Basuto Police do their work satisfactorily. They are constantly employed patrolling the border, their principal duty being to check liquor smuggling, which is in some places, I regret to say, still prevalent. At Mafeteng the Assistant Commissioner during the past year convicted 84 persons charged with smuggling brandy into his district. The authorities of the Orange Free State have, I am informed, now taken stringent measures to stop the irregularities on their side, and I trust that by the cordial co-operation of the Basutoland and Orange Free State officials, a check will be given to a trade which induces crime and affects the security of property on both sides of the border.

(8.) On the 1st July 1891, Basutoland entered the Customs Union.

Owing to the credits for Custom dues being brought to account in the quarter following that during which they accrue, but three quarters of the Customs dues of the past financial year, amounting to 7,328*l.*, have been brought to account. The amount of Customs is below what was anticipated. This is due:—(1) To the large stocks in the hands of traders on the 1st July 1891; (2) To depression of trade, partly caused by a bad harvest consequent on the plague of locusts; (3) To the wide difference made between local and import values; (4) To non-recognition of the value of material in articles claimed as colonial manufactures.

(9.) Returns made by regular traders show as exports from Basutoland in the year 1891: 95,132 sacks of wheat, 66,327 sacks of mealies, 1,345 sacks of Kaffir corn, and 350 sacks of oats. The actual exports exceed these figures, as the quantity of grain removed from the country by hawkers has not been ascertained.

(10.) On the 1st June 1892 telegraphic communication was established between Maseru and Ladybrand, the Orange Free State and Basutoland sharing the cost. In addition to this, several useful public works have been provided for, including sub-inspector's quarters at Butha-Butha, medical officer's quarters at Leribe, portion of border fence, &c.

(11.) The number of patients treated shows how much the valuable services rendered by the medical officers are appreciated; the hospital accommodation has been increased during the year to meet urgent requirements.

(12.) The work of the missionaries of all denominations appears to be increasing satisfactorily; all the schools receiving aid (which are, with two exceptions, missionary schools) have been inspected by Government officers, whose reports are generally favourable.

BASUTOLAND. 1891-92.

In compliance with a wish expressed by the Secretary of State, the Cape Colonial Government kindly lent the services for five weeks, from the 1st January, of a school inspector, the Reverend Canon Woodrooffe, who visited as many Basutoland schools as his time allowed. Canon Woodrooffe's letter submitting his detailed report accompanies this.

(13.) I have much pleasure in reporting favourably on the officers serving under me. The satisfactory state of the country and its finances is in a great measure due to the zeal and care with which they perform their several duties.

(14.) I append a summary of general statistics.

I have, &c.

(Signed) MARSHAL CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the High Commissioner for
South Africa.

Local Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	19,067	12	0
Licenses, fines, and ferry tolls -	2,545	3	8
Fees of Court - - -	70	6	1
Postal revenue - - -	757	3	6
Miscellaneous - -	313	13	4
	22,753	18	7

Licenses.

General traders - - - -	120
Hawkers - - - - -	263

Amount expended on education - - 3,955*l.*

SIR, Mohalies Hoek, February 9, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to send herewith my Report of school inspections in Basutoland.

The standards under which the scholars are classified are those which have been adopted in the Cape Colony. For convenience sake a summary of them is given:—

STANDARD I.—Reading and writing monosyllables; simple addition and the multiplication table to 6 times 12.

STANDARD II.—Easy reading and dictation; the simple rules of arithmetic.

STANDARD III.—Reading ordinary narrative and dictation; the compound rules of arithmetic (money); the definitions of geography and the map of Africa.

STANDARD IV.—Reading ordinary narrative fluently, and dictation; reduction and elementary vulgar fractions; geography of the world generally and of S. Africa specially; easy English grammar.

STANDARD V.—Vulgar and decimal fractions, practice, and proportion; outlines of history (England and the Cape Colony); geography, political and physical; English composition; handwriting. At the inspections in Standards I. and II., the Sesuto language has been accepted; in the other Standards the English language has been insisted on.

Previous to this inspection, the standards in use in the Cape Colony had not been adopted in any of these schools; they were therefore placed at some disadvantage, and they are not fully credited with the actual work that is going on. A large number of scholars who did not obtain any standard can read their own language fairly, and have some knowledge of writing it, but they have not learnt the arithmetic required.

In Standards IV. and V. passes of merit have been notified as "good.'

The school buildings are as a rule satisfactory; the exceptions are so few, and so likely to be remedied, that they need not be taken into account

The furniture is not in quality equal to the buildings; this is mainly owing to the high price of timber. If the Government were in a position to grant some aid in this direction, a great boon would be conferred.

The supply of school material is adequate.

The discipline and classification are fairly good. A not uncommon fault of teachers is their tendency to multiply classes, especially in the lower portion of their schools. This waste of time and power must be avoided.

The teachers themselves appear to be diligent in the performance of their duties. Some of them are well qualified for their posts; others are of very doubtful competency; but they are the best that can be obtained. In time we may reasonably expect to find a more ample supply of qualified men.

My report makes no special mention of singing. At nearly every inspection pieces were sung correctly which had been learnt on the tonic sol-fa system.

Of the schools inspected half are situated at centres where European missionaries reside, the other half are at out-stations; from some of these the scholars came to be examined at a school within travelling distance where an inspection was being held. Owing to the limited time at my disposal, this course appeared to

be a wise one. It enabled me to examine a much larger number of children than I could otherwise have inspected.

It was impossible for me to visit even every central station in the country; this would have been done, had the allotted time been sufficient.

According to the latest published returns the number of schools in Basutoland is 113, with an enrolment of 6,932 scholars. I have visited or inspected 37 schools, having a total of 2,906 scholars. Thus one-third of the schools and very nearly three-sevenths of the scholars have come under my observation.

The schools inspected are rather above the average of those in this territory, owing to the number of schools at central stations; those at out-stations being generally inferior; but among the latter I did not find one with which I was dissatisfied.

I have had some years of inspection experience in the Cape Colony, and have examined a large number of native schools annually, and my opinion of the Basutoland schools is favourable. If the adverse circumstances of late years be taken into consideration, the condition of these schools is more hopeful than would have been anticipated. At present they are somewhat below the average of those in other native territories, but they will advance; and it is highly probable that they will surpass the others, just as the Basuto race itself outstrips the other races in energy and intelligence. The great want is a supply of good teachers.

As regards the amount of the money grant given by Government, I consider it to be moderate. As nearly as I can calculate, it is less by about one-fourth than the sum which could be claimed under the system of the Cape Colony.

In conclusion I have to express my cordial appreciation of the warm hospitality and thorough kindness which I have met with everywhere during my five weeks in Basutoland.

I have, &c.
Henry R. Woodrooffe, M.A.

To the Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

Annual Report upon the District of Berea for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

The past year has been rather a disturbed one in this district.

In August 1891, Patso Mota had a quarrel with the Chief Mamathe about ploughing of lands, and some fighting took place, but it eventually ended in Patso leaving the district.

About the same time a quarrel broke out at Masalomane, between Peeta and Masupha's son Lebese, who was placed at Masalomane by his father. This quarrel also related to ploughing

of lands; the necessary steps were taken for preserving peace, and in a short while it quieted down, but was not satisfactorily settled, as was soon evident by the quarrel again breaking out in April 1892. A meeting was then held at Masalomare by the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, the Chief Masupha being also present, when the whole matter was gone into, and Peeta was ordered to withdraw that part of his people who had been living at Masalomane, Lebese being fined 50 head of cattle.

The meeting was held on the 4th June 1892, and since that time there has been no further disturbance.

The quarrel between Masupha and Leshaboro is not a very serious one, though it is not satisfactorily settled, which is evident by its breaking out nearly every year, generally about ploughing time, being with reference to ploughing of lands on top of the Berea mountain.

In dealing with thefts and tracing of thieves and stock, I have received the necessary assistance from the Chiefs; also in the collection of revenue, though the Chiefs Peeta and Leshabora have been rather backward in enforcing the payment of tax on their people; many of Peeta's people having lost stock and other things in the disturbance at Masalomane, prevented them from paying.

The officers of the Free State have co-operated with me in all cases in which their assistance has been necessary. In spite of frequent patrols along the border, small quantities of brandy are occasionally brought into the district.

The crops in this district during the year have not been good, in some parts being almost entirely eaten up by the swarms of locusts which visited Basutoland, though in others fair crops of wheat, mealies, and Kaffir corn have been reaped.

Wheat has sold at 20*s.* per muid, mealies at 12*s.*, and Kaffir corn, which has been more plentiful than last year, at 14*s.*

The trade of the district has been fair. The Arab traders have entirely ceased to trade in this district.

A deputy-inspector of schools from the Cape Colony visited some of the larger schools during the year, and spoke very favourably of them.

The roads have required to be continually repaired, though it is difficult to get men as overseers who understand the work. Native labour has been plentiful.

There is no medical officer in this district. Dr. Savage, the medical officer at Maseru, has visited this district, and has looked up several cases of leprosy. It has been suggested that the Chiefs should co-operate, and place all the lepers in their different wards in isolation, but this has not yet been done.

The report of school inspections has already been sent in.

The following returns are attached.

Annual return of revenue.
" hut tax.
" hut tax arrears.
" trading licenses, nominal list.
" hawkers' licenses.
" passes issued.
" civil and criminal cases.
" lost stock.

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Berea, 1st July 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Annual Return of Revenue collected in Berea District during the year ended 30th June 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	2,812 10 0
Licenses	237 0 0
Fees for transfer of licenses	0 10 0
Passes to remove grain	0 7 6
Fees	5 17 6
Judicial fines	42 17 6
Miscellaneous receipts	4 15 0
	3,103 17 6

Return Hawkers' Licences.

Monthly hawkers' licences	17
Free	14
	31

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Berea, 1st July 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner

Return of Traders.

No of Traders.	No. of Stations.
15	21

Return Passes.

Passes issued to persons in search of work -	2,648
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	3,973
	6,621

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, Berea.

Civil cases - - -	- 10
Criminal cases - -	- 0
Theft - - -	- 5
Contravening liquor regulations -	- 5
Contravening customs regulations -	- 4
Contravening pass regulations -	- 17
Assault - - -	- 1
Resisting police - -	- 4
Creating disturbance - -	- 1

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Berea, July 1st, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock reported at Berea.

Traced to Basuto-land.		Not traced.		Total reported.		Recovered and restored.		Not recovered.	
Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.
1	4	17	17	18	21	5	4	13	17

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT.
Berea, July 1st, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

General.

1. I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner, Maseru, on the 27th October 1891.

2. The late Paramount Chief Letsie died on the 21st November 1891, and was succeeded by his eldest son Lerothodi.

Letsie's death did not affect the politics of the district to the extent that it was feared it would, and beyond some slight delay in the payment of hut tax just before and immediately after his death—and that only on the part of his own personal following—the event has not disturbed the existing order of things.

3. On the 12th March a section of the Bathlokoa tribe, located in a remote valley in the north-east corner of the district, represented by their Chief Ledingoana, was tried before the Resident Commissioner for having killed two people who were accused of witchcraft. The case occurred in 1886, when these people were practically in a state of independence, as owing to the remoteness of their abode no control had been exercised over them, and they had not yet come into touch with Government.

Ledingoana and his people were fined 200 head of cattle.

4. A long standing dispute between the Chiefs Bereng and Maama, concerning rights of chieftainship in the neighbourhood of Popa, found vent in February last in a collision between a hunting party of Bereng's and an outlying post of Maama's, which ended in bloodshed.

After some fighting, in which three of Bereng's and one of Maama's people were killed, Bereng's men were beaten off and returned home, and the Paramount Chief arrived in the neighbourhood in time to intercept Bereng, who was proceeding with a large armed following to avenge his defeat.

With the advent of the Paramount Chief peace was restored, and on the 5th March an inquiry was held at Mofokas, in my presence. Both Chiefs attended, and expressed their contrition at what had occurred, and each expressed his surprise at the manner in which the other had acted.

On the 6th April the case was heard by the Resident Commissioner, and heavy cattle fines were imposed.

Population

The Census taken last year showed a population of 45,402 souls.

Education.

I attach a report on the schools in the district which are in receipt of Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade has been bad this year, and I am sorry to say that I can see no prospect of improvement. Terrible ravages have been committed by locusts among the crops, and it is a question whether a famine like that of 1885 may not have to be faced during the next six months. Many people have reaped nothing, and the exceptional cases are those in which no damage has been sustained.

The following are approximately the average prices paid by traders to natives for produce during the past year:—

Wheat - - - -	16*s.* per muid.
Mealies - - - -	10*s.* „
Kaffir corn - - -	15*s.* „
Wool - - - -	3*d.* per lb.
Hides - - - -	3*d.* „
Mohair - - - -	3*d.* „
Horned cattle - - -	4*l.* per head.
Sheep and goats - - -	10*s.* „

Public Works.

The roads in the district are on the whole in good repair. This is due partly to the exertions of the road parties and partly to the dry weather of the last few months.

The pont on the Caledon, in addition to being a great boon to the public, continues to pay well. The ferry tolls last year amounted to 344*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, and this notwithstanding a long spell of dry weather during which the pont lay idle.

Arrangements have been made for providing Maseru with a water supply.

The water is being led by means of pipes from a spring situated about a mile from the town. The inconvenience arising from the absence of an adequate supply of water has hitherto been much felt, and it is hoped that this will remove it.

Medicine.

I attach the report of the medical officer

Police.

The police detachment attached to my office consist of:—

2 Sub-inspectors.
3 European constables.
1 Native sergeant.
3 Corporals.
44 Privates.

53 of all ranks, all mounted.

I attach lost stock return.

Crime.

Serious crime continues to be rare, although the number of cases tried compares unfavourably with that of last year.

I append a list of cases tried in my court during the year under report.

Murder, 1 case Manslaughter, 2 cases	tried by combined Court.
Housebreaking	1 case.
Theft	6 „
Fraud	1 „
Attempted abduction	1 „
Assault	3 „
Escapes	3 „
Contravening liquor regulations	5 „
Contravening Masters and Servants Act	2 „

Revenue.

The general revenue falls short of last year by 668*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

The shortfall is in hut tax, licenses, ferry dues, and fines.

Although the total hut tax collected is 175*l.* less than last year, the normal tax for the year has slightly increased, as will be seen by the following table:—

Years.	Normal Collection for the Year.	Arrears for previous Years.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1890–1	3,412 0 0	621 0 0	4,033 0 0
1891–2	3,497 10 0	360 10 0	3,858 0 0

The shortfall in licences is due to depression in trade; in ferry dues, to a dry autumn and winter; in fines, it is a matter for congratulation.

Passes

Eight thousand two hundred and fifty-seven passes were granted to natives to leave the district during the year; of these 3,951 went in search of work.

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues to be of a friendly nature.

The Landdrost of Ladybrand has always afforded me most cordial and ready assistance whenever it has been in his power to do so, and to the co-operation so afforded I attribute in a great measure the comparative immunity which we in the district enjoy from the evils attendant upon the liquor traffic.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR
Assistant Commissioner's Office. Acting Assistant Commissioner.
Maseru, July 4, 1892.

Statement of Revenue for Year ending June 30, 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	3,858 0 0
Licences - - - - - - -	240 2 6
Fines - - - - - - -	177 11 5
Fees - - - - - - -	42 15 0
Special receipts - - - - - -	60 10 6
Ferry dues - - - - - - -	344 5 9
Postal revenue - - - - - -	757 3 6
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	83 10 10
Grain passes - - - - - -	2 6
Transfer of licences - - - - -	2 6
	5,564 4 6

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Trade Licences issued in Maseru District during the Year ending June 30, 1892.

Nature.	No.
General traders - - -	22
Hawkers' licences (free) - -	5
Hawkers' licences (monthly) - -	10
Passes to remove grain - -	1
Total - -	38

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Recovered but not reported.
Horses - -	13	—	13	1	—
Cattle - -	11	—	11	—	—
Sheep - -	150	—	150	150	30

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

SIR, Maseru, July 1, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to report that the health of this district for the past year has been very good. With the exception of influenza there have been no epidemics in this district, and only two cases of zymotic disease were treated at the hospital.

The number of attendances at the hospital was 6,663, of which 5,331 were cases treated for the first time; the numbers last year were 7,530 and 6,430. There were 55 hospital in-patients, who remained in 646 days; 3 died, one being admitted in a moribund condition.

The diminution in the number of attendances may be accounted for by the brighter and dryer season we have had this year compared with last, fewer cases of chest diseases, of ophthalmic, and also of venereal disease. There were 630 cases of mocaula compared with 705 last year, but 34 cases of tertiary syphilis against 22 last year. There were also fewer cases of phthisis. The percentage of venereal compared with other diseases is still very high.

The epidemic of influenza commenced about the beginning and lasted to the end of May. It was mild in type and not so serious among the Basutos as among the Europeans. There were no deaths from it in this neighbourhood, and I only heard of one or two in distant villages.

I consider the climate had a great influence in modifying the more serious aspects of the disease.

With regard to leprosy, 15 cases attended the hospital, of which 12 were fresh cases, showing the disease is still on the increase. No new cases have been reported to me by the police, but the suggestions I made in my report on leprosy in September last do not seem to have been fully carried out, as several known cases of leprosy have not been separated and isolated from their families. If those suggestions, simple as they are, cannot be efficiently and effectually carried out, then more stringnet measures will have to be adopted, or lepers, in order to escape

the new regulations in the Free State, will seek a refuge in Basutoland, as they are already reported to have done.

The health of the prisoners in the gaol has been very good.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

General.

There has been no serious disturbance in this district during the past year. Friction exists between Jonathan and several of the minor Chiefs in the district, showing itself from time to time in disputes mostly of a trivial nature from our point of view.

I.—On the 1st July 1891 an attack was made by Jonathan's herdsmen on the followers of Mpaki, a son of Molapo, living near the cattle posts in the mountains. Some huts were burnt and other damage done to the property of the villagers; and although Jonathan disowned the action of his herdsmen at the time, he took no steps to punish them, and on the night of the 8th October a fresh attack was made by them on Mpaki, who was driven from his village, which he has not since re-occupied.

II.—The long standing quarrel between Jonathan and his brother Joel, unfortunately, does not show signs of coming to an end.

Joel made overtures to Jonathan at one time, requesting his assistance in the matter of locating his eldest son, and asking him to use his influence with the Paramount Chief to obtain permission for Joel's cattle to return to their old pasturage in Mechachaneng, but no help was given by Jonathan in either of these matters, and certain native law cases which were referred to him by Joel have never been settled.

III.—The tract of land known as Mechachaneng, above referred to, has never entirely recovered from the state of disorder it was thrown into during the fighting between Joel and Makela in September 1890.

The subsequent inquiry into the case resulted in the Mechachaneng being awarded to Makela, and there have been numerous complaints of the steps since taken by him to evict the followers of Joel, many of whom have lived there for years, and wish to remain there. One case of the kind, in which fire-arms were used, is now under investigation.

IV.—As anticipated in my last year's report Motsoene made an attempt in July 1891, to take possession of his father's old village at Butha Buthe, sending his brother Masupha, with some armed

men, to occupy it. These men were dispersed by a party of Joel's followers under Matlatsa; and some guns and a horse were taken from them, which Joel has lately surrendered to the Paramount Chief. The originators of this disturbance have not been punished.

V. The ward of the late Chief Lesaoana is not in a satisfactory state. Owing to the jealousy existing between his sons, considerable difficulty is experienced in enforcing payment of hut tax, and native law cases, instead of being promptly settled by the Chiefs, are allowed to drift until the disputants are driven to take the law into their own hands, and resort to violence.

Generally speaking, the sons of Lesaoana show a disinclination to follow the advice of their officers, and, although professedly loyal to the Government, they evade doing what is required of them, as far as they consider it safe to do so.

VI.—The question of the Government right to the Reserve at Thlotse Heights was re-opened by the Headman Makotoko during the past year. This Headman has from time to time, since the Gun War, taken possession of Government lands on the Reserve, and given them out to his followers, and no more such lands being available, he this year commenced ploughing up part of the pasturages.

This was put a stop to by the Resident Commissioner, but no steps have been taken to compel him to restore the lands previously seized by him. This is a question affecting police discipline, as the men see that if they do their duty in such a way as to displease the Chiefs, they are liable to be deprived of their lands, and the Government Service suffers accordingly.

VII.—Hut tax has not come in so well this year as could be wished. This is largely owing to the neglect of the Chief Jonathan, who has failed to put the requisite pressure on his people, and has rather encouraged them by his example to delay payment.

Attention has been drawn to this from time to time.

VII.—This Chief has also sometimes shown reluctance to assist in the re-capture of criminals who have escaped from the Free State.

One such case was reported on the 31st March last, and is now the subject of correspondence with the Free State authorities.

VIII.—Details of events in the sub-district of Butha-Buthe will be found in the attached report of sub-inspector Boxwell.

Population.

The population of the district as shown by the Census returns is about 48,000.

Education.

The Cape Government Inspector of Schools, Canon Woodrooffe, visited some of the schools in the district in January last, but was

unable, through shortness of time and bad weather, to inspect them all.

A report was sent in, on the 26th instant, on the schools which receive Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade appears to be brisk, and grain is fetching high prices.

Most of the Arab or Coolie traders formerly in the district have left, and Europeans have taken their places. As the Coolies occasionally tried to make trouble between the Chiefs and the Government their departure is not to be regretted.

Public Works.

The new public offices at this station were completed in August 1891, and the hospital in October.

Additions are being made to the gaol at Thlotse Heights, and officers' quarters have been commenced at Butha Buthe to replace the temporary buildings hitherto occupied.

The roads in this district are in fair order, and compare favourably with those in adjacent parts of the Free State.

It is proposed to commence a new section of road on the Upper Caledon, to connect with the waggon road recently made, to cross the mountains from Witzies-Hoek to the Caledon, near Kennan's Cave. The road, if constructed, would give access to several Free State farms on the Upper Caledon, at present unoccupied on account of difficulties of route.

Medical.

The report of the medical officer for the district is attached. A report by the same officer on the spread of leprosy was sent in on the 20th August 1891.

Police.

The police have had additional work thrown on them during the past year, owing to the inspection of waggons, &c., called for by the Customs Convention.

The force is in a fair state of discipline, and, considering the difficulties under which the men labour, their duties are well performed.

Crime.

The criminal cases tried during the year are as follows:—

Theft - - - - -	15 cases.
Contravention of liquor law - - -	9 „
Contravention of pass law - - -	5 „

Contravention of customs law - - -	2	cases.
Contravention of trading regulations - -	3	„
Assault - - - - -	2	„
Resisting police - - -	2	„
Breach of prison discipline - - -	1	„
Rescue of impounded stock - - -	1	„

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues on a friendly footing. The Extradition Treaty works well, and several escaped criminals have been arrested in this district and surrendered during the past year.

The question of the boundary between the Orange Free State and this territory on the Upper Caledon was settled early in the year, in favour of Basutoland, and the disputed tract was beaconed off by a joint commission from the Free State and Basutoland.

Several of the cases of theft tried in this court during the year have arisen out of disputes about wages between masters and servants in the Free State.

The servants, feeling aggrieved, have taken property of their masters and brought it into Basutoland. While condemning this practice, it is well to recollect that the fault, originally, in many cases, lies with the masters, who, when the servants' terms of service have nearly expired, quarrel with them on frivolous grounds with the object of finding an excuse for withholding their wages.

Instances still occasionally occur of Free State burghers taking cases of theft, &c. to the native Chiefs for settlement, and ignoring the officers of the Government. Their excuse for this appears to be that the Chiefs award them more liberal compensation out of the defendant's property than Government officers feel justified in doing.

The following returns are attached:—

I.—Revenue collected from 1st July 1891 to 30th June 1892, amounting to 4,822*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*

II.—*Arrear hut tax collected during the same period, amounting to 679*l.* 10*s.*

III.—*Nominal list of licensed traders.

IV.—Return of number of hawker licenses issued.

V.—Annual return of hut tax collected, inclusive of stock and grain.

VI.—Return of passes issued.

VII.—Return of lost stock reported, and action taken thereon.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

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* Not Printed.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock reported, and Action taken thereon

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	*23	4	17	4
Cattle - -	77	3	74	3
Sheep - -	24	24	—	24

* The case of two of these horses is still under investigation.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Leribe, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

List of General Traders' Licences in Leribe District.

Europeans.	Arabs or Coolies.	Shops.
13	1	23

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Leribe, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Return showing Number of Hawkers' Licences issued during Year ended June 30th, 1892.

Period.	No. of Licences for which 1*l.* was paid.	No. of Licences free.	Total.
12 months ended 30th June 1892.	63	21	84

BASUTOLAND. 1891–92.

Return of Passes issued in Leribe District during Year ended June 30th, 1892.

No. of Passes issued.	No. of Persons to whom Passes were issued.	No. of Persons obtaining Passes to seek Employment.
7,729	12,364	2,682

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Leribe, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Return showing Amount of Revenue collected in Leribe District during Year ended June 30th, 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £	s.	d.
Hut tax	4,159	12	0
Licences	454	15	0
Fines	60	10	0
Ferry tolls	16	6	6
Fees of Court or Office	1	1	0
Fees for transfer of licences	0	2	6
Fees for registering marriages	1	12	6
Special receipts	128	15	1
	4,822	14	7
Arrears, hut tax, Thlotse Heights	416	0	0
„ „ Butha Buthe	263	10	0
	679	10	0

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Leribe, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Medical Report for the Year ending June 30th, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the public health in this district has been good throughout the year. The number of cases having attended the public dispensary and hospital has been 3,632, showing an increase of 531 cases over last year's report.

This increase in the attendance is partly due to the epidemic of influenza, prevalent in the Leribe district during the months of April and May.

The influenza was generally of a mild character, proving mortal for only four cases in camp.

Syphilis or mocaola is less prevalent in the district than formerly, the dispensary books showing only an average of five per cent. of mocaola cases.

Leprosy has also been apparently stationary; it is, however, difficult to know the exact progress of the malady, as the Chiefs have given orders to lepers not to appear in public, the result being that lepers are rarely seen among other patients, but mix all the same with their neighbours and relations at home.

Gonorrhœa and other venereal and uterine diseases are, on the contrary, on the increase. This is owing to the general prostitution practised by married women and girls among the Basutos.

Several cases of goitre have come to my notice of late. The disease seems prevalent among the people living in the closed valleys of the Malutas. It attacks specially young women, and may be connected with malarial or other influences causing the so called camp fever.

No case of cretinism has been noted among them.

Nervous diseases seem also on the increase; mental derangement is frequent, and epilepsy frequent, to the extent of 2½ per cent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

BUTHA BUTHE.

SIR, Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the Annual Report of that part of the Leribe District under my more immediate charge for the past year.

General.

There has not been any very serious disturbance in this ward during the past year; but relations between Joel and Jonathan, and Joel and Matela, have not in any way improved.

There are constant disputes between Matela's people and the men living in his country who call themselves Joel's. These people for a long time failed to carry out the judgment given by Mr. Lagden, that they should either acknowledge Matela as their Chief, or come out from his country.

Some of them have left, but many are still there, and are a constant source of trouble, Leboea and Mtsuana in particular.

Joel is still very reluctant to send any cases to Jonathan, or to refer to him in any matter.

Early in July 1891, Letsika, Matela's eldest son, was re-instated in his father's country. He is the cause of a good deal of trouble between Matela and his other sons.

On July the 21st some cattle of Motsoene's were reported to have been sent over the boundary stream into Joel Ward.

This occurred again a day or two afterwards, and on the 27th, when the cattle were again over, some of Joel's men came up armed, and drove away Motsoene's men and the cattle. Some few shots were fired, but no one was injured.

During the latter end of May 1892, the people in Joel Ward were very uneasy, owing to rumours that Jonathan intended to go up with an armed party to Matela's, ostensibly to attend a feast, but really to drive Leboea away from Machachaneng. Nothing, however, came of this, as Jonathan did not go up.

On the 9th June it was reported that, a few days before, a fight had taken place between Letsika's people and Lekopa's, two of Matela's sons, in which some 16 or 17 men had been injured. This was not reported by Matela, who said, when asked about it, that it was only a fight with sticks between a few herd boys.

On the same day Joel reported that he was placing his eldest son, Mopedi, at Butha Buthe. Mopedi came to Butha Buthe mountain, and is at present living in a cave over Letaka's village. No site has as yet been pointed out for Mopedi's village.

On June 26th news reached me of another disturbance between Matela's people and Mtsuana. Shots were fired, and I was at first afraid that the Chiefs would join in and bring on a serious fight.

I, however, now am in hopes that the matter may be settled without further fighting.

Two cases only of serious crime occurred during the year; one was a case of manslaughter, the other of attempted rape.

The prisoner in the latter case is still awaiting trial, and there may be other charges of the same nature against him.

The locusts came in great numbers over this ward during the months of March and April, but have not done any widespread damage, though a few men have suffered considerable loss.

Revenue.

I am glad to be able to report that, year by year, there is a steady increase in the hut tax paid in this ward. The amount paid during the past year exceeded that of the previous year by 71*l.* 10*s.*, the people of Joel and Malupi paying particularly well.

The total Revenue of the ward is also higher than during any previous twelve months.

Trade.

There are now nine stores open in this ward, most of which are doing, I think, fairly well.

The number of hawkers' licences issued here was 45, only 20 being issued the previous year.

The roads in the ward are now in good order. That leading into Tlama's ground has been put into thorough repair, and the part of it which goes over the rocks at Tsime now presents no difficulties to traders. This is an important road, as a large quantity of grain is grown in Tlama's ground.

I have received instructions to make a short piece of road in Machachaneng, and hope soon to get at this work.

Schools.

There are three schools in this ward receiving aid from Government, and one or two smaller ones, branches from the above. One school is under the directions of the Church of England, the other two under the French Protestant Church.

The total number of pupils on the books of the aided schools during the past quarter was 104.

My relations with the Orange Free State officials along the border during the past year have been friendly, and they have given me all the assistance in their power.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

Return of Revenue collected during Twelve months ended June 30th, 1892.

Hut Tax.	Licences.	Fines.	Fees.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1,118*l.* 10*s.*	138*l.*	5*l.* 15*s.*	4*s.*	Nil.	1,262*l.* 9*s.*

Return of Passes issued July 1st, 1891, to June 30th, 1892.

No. of Passes issued.	No. of People.	No. of People seeking Work.
3,979	6,564	1,395

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock, July 1st, 1891, to June 30th, 1892.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	6	6	—	6
Cattle -	3	—	3	—
Sheep - -	35	—	35	—

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

I.—Few events of political importance occurred during the past year.

The succession of Lerothodi Letsie to the Paramount Chieftainship of the Basuto necessitated the removal of his residence from this district to near Matsieng; when the Chief left Mafeteng district he appointed counsellors to represent him, and these persons have rendered me cordial assistance, whenever I found it necessary to refer native questions to them.

II.—The border adjoining the Orange Free State continues to be vigilantly patrolled by mounted police, whose principal duty has been to check brandy smuggling into Basutoland from the town of Wepener, and from illicit canteens kept by certain Free State farmers near the border.

Patrol work has been comparatively easy along that portion of border enclosed with a wire fence, and three (3) police shelters have been erected, one at each gateway.

About seven (7) miles of the border, extending from Mr. Bergh's farm to the Caledon River, is still unfenced, and at this point police patrols have difficulty in stopping illicit traffic.

Although eighty-four (84) persons were arrested on entering Basutoland with liquor in their possession and punished in the

Assistant Commissioner's Court, Mafeteng (twenty were arrested within the last quarter), the smuggling still continues.

I am aware that during the last ten days the Landdrost of Wepener has placed great restrictions on the sale of liquor to coloured persons, and I trust his action may have the satisfactory result of suppressing illicit traffic.

The police have also been engaged on Customs duty connected with the importation of merchandize into this territory.

III.—Heavy rains during the summer months did considerable injury to transport roads, and necessitated the constant employment of labour parties, who, under the direction of competent overseers, have repaired all damage, and the roads are now in good order.

A cottage for the medical officer was built, additional hospital accommodation authorised, and necessary repairs have been done to the various Government buildings. The public cemetery has also been enclosed with a stone wall.

IV.—The free dispensary was well attended by natives. I attach a report from the medical officer.

V.—There are nineteen general traders' shops in the district, and six hawkers' licences were issued.

Many persons from the Cape Colony and Free State have obtained free permits to barter produce for Basutoland grain.

Flights of locusts destroyed numerous standing crops, and consequently the price of cereals ruled high, and those who depended on their crops for food are somewhat short of provision. Good seed wheat supplied by Government has been issued.

The following were the average local prices paid for Basutoland produce and stock:—

Mealies - - - -	10*s.* per muid
Kaffir corn - - - -	15*s.* „
Wheat - - - -	15*s.* „
Oats - - - -	10*s.* „
Barley - - - -	10*s.* „
Tobacco - - - -	6*d.* per lb.
Hides - - - -	3*d.* „
Wool - - - -	4*d.* „
Mohair - - - -	5*d.* „
Horned cattle - -	30*s.* to 80*s.* each
Sheep - - -	5*s.* to 12*s.* „
Goats - - -	3*s.* to 7*s.* „
Basuto ponies averaged -	2*l.* to 8*l.* „

VI.—A large number of natives obtained passes for the purpose of seeking employment in the Cape Colony, Orange Free State, and Transvaal.

VII.—The various mission schools and undenominational schools in the district continue to do good work, and are well attended.

I attach a separate Report on 25 Government aided schools inspected during last year.

VIII.—The Civil and Criminal Cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, Mafeteng, were as follows:—

Civil actions	5
Wilful murder	1
Manslaughter	3
Perjury	1
Theft	6
Section 7, Liquor Regulations	84
Resisting police	8
Assault	2
Escaping from custody	2
Pass Law	2

Stolen stock, when traced into Basutoland and reported at the Assistant Commissioner's Office, has in every case been recovered.

I would mention that out of the above record the following cases arose directly through the sale of brandy on the Free State Border to natives:—Section 7, Liquor Ordinance, 76; Resisting police, 6; Assault, 7. These statistics show that, if the temptation to buy liquor was removed from the Basuto, there would be comparatively little crime in this district, which contains a population of over 40,000 persons.

IX.—I append statistics of revenue, which is improving.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,555	0	0
Licenses	199	0	0
Fines	157	0	0
Fees	5	12	1
Miscellaneous	4	9	3
	3,921	1	4

I attach the under-mentioned Reports and Returns:—

Medical Officer's Report.
School Inspection.
Lost Stock Return.
Revenue Return.
Traders' Return.
Passes issued.
Hawkers' Return.
Number of huts on which tax has been paid.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

SIR, Mafeteng, Basutoland, July 1, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the medical work done in the Mafeteng District during the past year.

The health of the village of Mafeteng and of the district generally has been on the whole good. I have, however, to record a very important epidemic of influenza, which made its appearance towards the end of April, and lasted about two months, during which period a very large portion of the population were attacked to a greater or lesser extent. The disease was, in the vast majority of cases, mild in type, and the after-effects were trifling. I am not aware of a single uncomplicated case proving fatal, and complications were quite exceptional. It was particularly noteworthy that the most common and serious complication observed in Europe, pneumonia, was not met with.

A small but very fatal epidemic of diphtheria was reported from a small village near Kalabane mountain. Six children died.

No other infectious disease, and only one case of typhoid fever, came under my notice.

The number of persons treated at the Government dispensary during the year was 3,533, of which 1,271 were males, 1,377 females, and 888 infants and children.

Subsequent attendances numbered 1,634, and hospital attendances amounted to 2,276.

The total number of attendances was thus 7,433. Eleven deaths (two in hospital) occurred amongst those under treatment.

At the beginning of the year the newly erected hospital hut was opened to receive surgical and medical cases which could not be properly attended as out-patients at the dispensary. This has proved of the greatest use. The accommodation has, however, been found insufficient for our needs. The new ward now in course of erection will supply a want which has been at times keenly felt, and will, I hope, enable the work to be carried out in a more satisfactory manner than has been possible hitherto.

From the annexed table, showing an analysis of all cases treated during the year, it will be seen that syphilis (called by the natives makaula) is still very prevalent, five hundred and twenty-one cases being recorded, nor does this number, I am afraid, nearly represent the total number in the district, for very many cases are still treated by native doctors and others. The extraordinary prevalence of this disease may, I think, be attributed to want of cleanliness, and ignorance or disregard of its contagious nature, and to lesser extent, perhaps, to immorality.

The native, too, is much more susceptible to this disease than the European.

In 308 instances the disease was acquired, and 203 infants and children hereditary. The great amenability of this disease to medical treatment, coupled with the tendency to natural extinction makes me hopeful that in time it will cease to be so general.

Five hundred and sixty-one persons sought relief for digestive trouble.

The undue proportion of cases of this nature can only be ascribed to the character of the native diet, principally the use, often in incredibly large quantities, of a thin gruelly fluid made from grain whilst fermentation is still going on.

Twelve cases of leprosy came under treatment. I am not aware that any attempt has been made to isolate, even partially, persons suffering from this disease.

Thirteen deaths by lightning have come to my notice, and sixteen persons have sought relief for shock and other nervous symptoms caused by it.

Two deaths by violence, two by accident, one by drink and exposure, and one suicide have also come to my knowledge in the course of past year,

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.

(Signed) W. M. EATON, Medical Officer

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered and restored.	Not recovered.
Cattle - -	13	1	12	1	12
Horses - -	2	—	2	—	2
Sheep - -	79	26	53	24	55
Goats - -	28	—	28	—	28

One horse recovered before reported lost.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN, Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Revenue collected in the Mafeteng District between 1st July 1891 and 30th June 1892.

Head of Revenue.	Amounts. £	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - - - -	3,555	0	0
Licenses - - - - - -	199	0	0
Fines - - - - - -	157	0	0
Fees - - - - - - -	5	12	1
Miscellaneous - - - - -	4	9	3
	3,921	1	4

Return.—Traders.

No. of Traders.	Stations.
12	19

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN.
Assistant Commissioner

Return.—Hawkers' Licences.

Ordinary licences - - -	9
Free - - - - -	50
	59

Return of Passes.

In search of work - - -	4,280
Other purposes - - - -	4,081
	8,361

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Cornet Spruit District, June 1892.

I.—The past twelve months may be described as almost uneventful.

From 1st July last the territory was included in the South African Customs Union; this has given rise to the establishing of posts at all main entrances to the district from foreign States for the supervision of goods entering, and the arrangements appear to act satisfactorily.

Unimportant disputes between minor Chiefs have in all cases been settled by the Chief Lerothodi or his representative.

On the 30th July last the Chief Lerothodi with Leduma (Chief of the Baposhuti) were sent by the Paramount Chief Letsie to investigate and settle a long standing dispute between the Chief Sekoati and a Headman named Maphakela; the dispute was over certain gardens used by the latter and claimed by the former.

On the same date one of the minor Bataung Chiefs, Ntsuele, died.

BASUTOLAND. 1891-92.

On the 4th August an old and much respected Chief, Potsane, died.

The funeral was attended by myself, Mr. Boyes, and all the available police, and was conducted according to Christian rites, the burial service being read by the Rev. M. A. Reading; the Chief Potsane is succeeded by his eldest son Malebanye.

On the 18th November the Paramount Chief Letsie died, which event cast a gloom over the district; all natives who were able flocked from the district to pay their last respect over their Chief's grave. Shortly afterwards a National Pitso was held at Maseru, and the Chief Lerothodi appointed to succeed his father as Paramount Chief of the territory.

The above sad event had been for some time anticipated; but has made little or no diffierence in the political aspect of the district.

II.—Relations between the territory and neighbouring states continue satisfactory.

I regret to have to say that the illicit sale of brandy continues on the Free State border, more especially on the Bataung border. Every effort is being made to put a stop to this nefarious traffic.

III.—The population is increasing yearly, and the district is becoming much crowded, and arable land very scarce.

IV.—In January last the locusts visited the district and remained for some time, doing great damage to standing crops and pasturage generally.

Owing to the early frost in April many of the crops that had escaped the locusts were destroyed. Owing to these two drawbacks grain is scarce and dear in the district.

V.—Education and religion are, I think, making fair progress. During the past year a Cape Colonial school inspector visited the district. School report attached.*

VI.—The traders in the district have, I think, done fairly well during the past year; just at present, owing to the scarcity of grain, business is slack as compared with the early part of the year.

General trading stations - - -	15
Hawkers' licenses - - - -	12
Dam licenses - - - -	2

VII.—The medical work in the district has considerably increased, and I feel sure is duly appreciated.

An epidemic of influenza was prevalent during the months of May and June, but no fatal cases have been brought to my notice, *vide* Medical Report, from which it will be seen that the hospital work has greatly increased, and in consequence of the increasing demand two extra wards have been added to the dispensary for hospital accommodation.

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* Not printed.

VIII.—*Crime.*

The criminal record has been very small; the following is an extract from the records :—

Theft - - - - - -	3
Manslaughter - - - - -	1
Contravening regulations - - -	4
„ Customs regulations - -	1
Other irregularities - - - -	2

IX.—Labour has been plentiful during the past year, and a large number of passes have been issued, mostly to persons seeking employment in neighbouring states. *Vide* return of passes issued.

X.—The roads in the district are now in fair order, but have required constant repairing, owing to damage done by the rains last year.

Three road parties have been employed, and the expenditure on the work has been very heavy.

XI.—The pont and ferry-boats are much used during the rainy season, and are of great benefit to traders and travellers.

IX.—*Revenue.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,007	10	0
Licenses - - - -	247	11	9
Fees of Court - - -	2	15	0
Special Receipts - -	9	2	6
Total - -	3,266	19	3

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Passes issued at Mohales Hoek during the Year ended 30th June 1892.

Seeking employment - - -	2,934
Visiting, &c. - - - -	2,278
Total - - -	5,212

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Restored to owner.
Horses -	24	3	21	3	21	3
Cattle -	34	7	27	3	31	3
Sheep -	247	nil	247	nil	247	nil

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Report of the Medical Work in the Mohales Hoek District for the Year ending 30th June 1892.

During the twelve months ending 30th June 1892, the attendance in the out-patient department of the Government hospital numbered 4,079. Of these 2,858 were new patients, and included 946 surgical and 1,912 medical cases. 10·9 per cent. of the total number were of a syphilitic nature, 446 being classed under this heading, and of these 106 were cases of hereditary disease. It is satisfactory to note that the Reserve is singularly free of this disease, most, and the worst, of the cases being from the mountain districts. Cases of zymotic diseases have been conspicuous by their absence, two cases of diphtheria being the only ones noted under this heading; two lepers presented themselves for treatment.

There was an outbreak of influenza during the months of May and June, but the cases were mostly of a mild nature, and no deaths are reported from this disease.

The work in the in-patient department has increased greatly since new accommodation was provided in February.

During the year 48 patients were admitted, of which number 37 were admitted between 31st January and 30th June; 30 major operations were performed on these patients, and two deaths occurred among in-patients during the year; a "resumé" * of the cases treated in the two departments is annexed.

(Signed) E. C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

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* Not printed.

QUTHING DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1892.

SIR

I HAVE the honour to submit herein my report on the affairs of this district for the year 1891–1892.

Early in the year Chief Lerothodi paid a visit to Quthing, and remained some weeks. While here a disturbance occurred between some messengers of Chief Letsie and the Chiefs Chopo and Letele, and it eventually transpired that the refugee Pondomesi Chief, Mhlonhlo, was more or less concerned in the quarrel.

Owing to this a rumour spread throughout the district that it was the intention of the Government to entrap and arrest him.

This rumour caused considerable excitement and anxiety throughout the whole district, which was only gradually allayed by your statement at the Pitso.

At the end of November the district was again disturbed by false reports caused by the death of the Paramount Chief Letsie; these, however, soon died away, on the Chief Lerothodi's instalment in his father's place, and Letsie's death may be said to have made little or no difference to this district.

There have been no disputes or fights worthy of mention during the year.

Within the last few weeks Chief Mooiletsi has revived an old dispute between himself and a colonial headman named Wilhem Schuyt, about the boundary of Basutoland at the Upper Telle River.

I am informed that this question was raised once before, in the time of Mr. J. M. Orpen, Governor's Agent. I am still awaiting further explanations from Mooiletsi before inquiring into the matter.

I am glad to be able to report that the outbreak of red-water, which caused so great a mortality among the horned cattle last year, has not recurred this year, except in a few isolated instances.

In the autumn, this district, in common with others, was visited by large swarms of locusts, which did terrible damage to the grain crops, and more or less ruined the harvest. Grain prices, therefore, are high just now, and growing steadily.

Stock in general is not in as good condition as it usually is at this time of the year.

The new waggon road in course of construction to Ongeluksnek has not been proceeded with since my last report, but the part already made is kept in fair repair.

As usual, a good deal of damage was done to the waggon roads by the heavy summer rains, but with the aid of an extra road party, I am glad to report that this has been made good, and that the roads are now in a fit state to carry the class of transport for which they are required.

There are at present nine trading stations in the district, and an application for a tenth is still under consideration.

The French Protestant Mission Society has ten schools in the district, and the Government has one night school for men and boys.

My report on them was forwarded to you on the 24th December last.

Since then some two or three of these have been re-examined by the Rev. Canon Woodroffe.

The police detachment stationed here continues effective. It consists of:—

1 European sub-inspector.
1 „ constable.
1 „ „ (temporary).
29 non-commissioned officers and men.

The population of the district was found by the Census taken last year to be 19,500 souls.

The following cases have been heard during the year in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Civil - - - - - -	4
Criminal - - - - - -	—
Contravening Basutoland pass regulations -	2
„ „ trading regulations -	4
„ „ Customs regulations -	2
Theft - - - - - -	5
Assault - - - - - -	1

The Revenue for the current year, which exceeds that of last year by 46*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, was received as under:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	1,675	0	0
Licenses - - - -	367	13	3
Fees - - - -	3	14	0
Miscellaneous - - -	6	17	3
Total - -	2,053	4	6

I attach hereto schedules as under.

Revenue in details of heads.
Arrear hut tax collected.*
Passes issued (labour).
„ (ordinary).
Return of hawkers' licences.
Nominal list of traders.*

The dispensary at Moyeni, which was re-opened in June last by Dr. Long, and which it was intended should be kept open for two days per fortnight, has been again closed, as it was found

* Not printed.

impossible for the medical officer to attend to it while he was also attending a regular dispensary and hospital at Mohales Hoek, some 35 miles away.

A good deal of influenza has been about in the district lately, but not so much, it would seem, as in other parts of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Total Number of Passes issued at Quthing during Year ending June 30th, 1892.

Ordinary passes	2,218
Work „	1,433
	3,651

Number of Hawkers' Licences issued during Year ending June 30th 1892.

10

Waggons	9
Horses	8
	17

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Quthing, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Revenue, 1891–92.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax	1,675 0 0
Licences	100 7 6
Fines	17 2 6
Ferry tolls	250 3 3
Fees of court	3 14 0
Miscellaneous	6 17 3
	2,053 4 6

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Quthing, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1891–92.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR and HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town, to His Honour the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 23, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th instant, containing your report on the progress of Basutoland during the past year.

I congratulate you and your officers on the good work accomplished, and the financial results achieved in face of the difficulties created by a bad harvest and the devastation caused by flights of locusts.

In order that measures may be taken to check, as far as possible, the devastation caused by the locust swarms, I have given instructions that you be supplied with the latest Government publications dealing with this question.

I desire also to express my appreciation of the good and loyal service rendered by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, and I trust he will in the future continue to use every effort for the maintenance of peace and the promotion of prosperity amongst the Basuto people.

I regret, however, to notice that some of the Chiefs have shown a readiness to resort to arms for the settlement of disputes, and that they have been in some cases reluctant to support the authority of the Government. I desire, therefore, that you will inform the Chiefs that I have heard of their conduct with regret, the more so as the Basutoland Constitution places them in the position of Government officers, and I expected to receive from them a more cordial support of the Government of which they form a part.

I trust that in the future the Chiefs, as Government officers, will show a better example to the people.

The number of stolen stock not recovered, as reported in Mr. Bowker's report, is a reflection on the Chiefs and people. I wish for a detailed report on this subject from all the districts.

The spread of leprosy is a serious evil, and I desire that you will explain to the Chiefs the importance of a cordial co-operation for the segregation of lepers, and, if you consider such a course desirable, I will arrange for their removal to Robben Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

His Honour Sir Marshal Clarke, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

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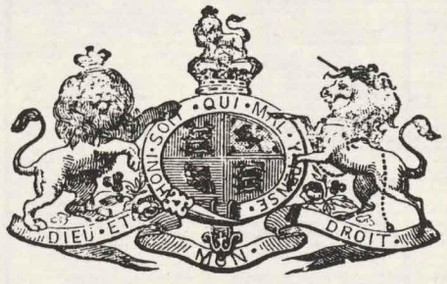
No. 89.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892-93.

(For Report for 1891–92, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 62.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
September 1893.



LONDON:
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1893.

[C.—6857.-39.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	
83	Barbados	
84	St. Vincent	
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 89.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1891–92, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 62.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Cape Town,
MY LORD MARQUESS, August 12, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the Annual Report of the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Mr. Lagden.

In communicating this report to your Lordship I desire to express my high appreciation of the good work done by Sir Marshall Clarke, Mr. Lagden and the Basutoland officials generally. They have had to contend with great difficulties during the past year, but I am glad to be able to congratulate them on the way in which those difficulties have been surmounted and to have the opportunity of bringing their services to your Lordship's notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

From ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, South Africa.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
SIR, July 31, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to yuor Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1893, together with report of the Acting Government Secretary covering Annual Reports of the Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers in duplicate.

I 78160. Wt. 10230.

2. I was absent on duty in Swaziland for the greater part of the year, and on my return in March last, was much struck with the loyal, business-like character displayed by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi in dealing with national affairs, marred, however, occasionally by the effects of drink, to which he is apt to give way.

3. Lerothodi has undoubtedly had much opposition to contend with, due to jealousy on the part of some of his younger brothers and the younger sons of other influential chiefs. Many of these juniors had during Letsie's later life a prodigal and favoured time. They hoodwinked the old Chief, whose age and decrepitude made him blind to violence and excesses perpetrated under his name, and were spoiled for discipline.

4 The accession of a strong man like Lerothodi, full of will and purpose to set the house in order and assert his position, naturally provoked enmity between him and the section that had traded on the weakness of his father. Intrigues ensued which were calculated to shake the Paramount Chieftainship and strengthen the position of the younger generation, who viewed with some sense of alarm what appeared to them as the gradual decadence of their power and the apparent substitution of a public opinion, formerly unknown in the country, to which Lerothodi was prone to give ear. They fancied, moreover, that he owed his dynasty and the tenure of it too much to Government support.

5. These feelings, which had been fermenting ever since the death of Letsie, found vent, after various indications during the year under notice, in open defiance exhibited by Maama, who refused to acknowledge with due respect the position of the Paramount Chief or to obey his orders. He coquetted with Masupha and some of the minor Chiefs, giving as the ostensible reason for his behaviour that he was being deprived of rights and dispossessed of certain cattle bestowed upon him by his father. So incensed was Lerothodi at this attitude that he assembled his people under arms and marched towards Maama's village fully intent upon administering summary punishment. Upon the advice of Government, however, he withdrew his forces, returned home, and concurred in submitting the matter to the Resident Commissioner, who, regarding it as a very serious family quarrel, convened a Pitso of all the principal descendants and councillors of Moshesh to discuss and adjudicate upon it.

The proceedings showed beyond doubt that the pretexts advanced were illusory and that a conspiracy of younger against elder sons was really contemplated. It was regarded by the Pitso as an affair affecting the Chieftainship. This was unreservedly admitted by the principal speakers, who at the same time declared themselves bound in fealty to Lerothodi as their supreme chief in succession to Moshesh and Letsie.

There is ground for believing that Maama and his adherents were prompted by a desire to create a disturbance, conducive,

perhaps, to civil war ; but wiser counsels prevailed in the end, and Maama had to submit to a severe admonishment and to be deprived of the guardianship of certain rights and privileges held by he Court to have been granted conditionally by Letsie, subject to reversion at pleasure of his successor in office.

6. Were Lerothodi not so addicted to intemperance he would by his strength of character be well able to cope with the tribal opposition to which he is exposed. His weakness for drink affords opportunities to his opponents and causes discontent in the tribe as well as embarrassment to the Government, for, while protesting against the evils of it, his excessive indulgence offers a fatal example to others which is made the most of.

7. With regard to the latter subject, I much regret to state that it appears from the district reports that brandy smuggling has during the past year much increased along the Caledon river border, where a series of illicit houses continue to be kept by men of bad character on the Orange Free State side. We are much indebted to some of the border Landdrosts who equally condemn the objectionable traffic, and have exerted themselves, under instructions from their Government, to suppress it. I trust that the district officers in Basutoland, who are most assiduous in their efforts to encounter the evil, will be successful. From one of the returns appended to the Government Secretary's report, it will be seen that our police patrols, averaging three men in each, covered an estimated distance of 18,990 miles in search of persons contravening the Liquor and Pass Regulations, of whom 157 were prosecuted for offences under the clauses relating to them.

8. A renewal of the old-standing feuds amongst the Molapo family in Leribe took the form of an open rupture in August last between Joel and Matela, on which occasion two men were killed and some wounded. The case required special treatment, ending in imprisonment of certain men who provoked the disturbance. There were other serious brawls in the territory, resulting in death and injury to several people, but no grave complications occurred, and combined courts dealt with them satisfactorily.

9. These village fights resulting in homicide have latterly been so numerous that it has been found expedient, in accord with the expressed wish of the Paramount Chief, to visit those concerned by imprisonment in lieu of fines in the hope that this form of punishment will act as a deterrent.

10. Trade appears to have been very depressed in the early part of the year, owing to the destruction of crops by locusts, which caused a deal of poverty. A splendid autumn harvest, however, turned the tide and provided the people with abundance of food. The prices of grain consequently now rule exceptionally low, as shown in one of the enclosed returns, which includes also an approximate price list of all produce and stock.

11. In connection with the "hunger" period it is noticeable that the Basuto Chiefs took a new departure by way of adopting

"Boycotting." Being ignorant, as they are, of the laws of supply and demand, although Government officers have for years been trying to impress upon them how all nations are governed by such laws, it is hard for them to realize why, when their grain is plentiful and saleable at 5*s.* a bag only, it should not remain at that price when grain is scarce. In some instances last year a bag of mealies required absolutely for subsistence could only be repurchased from the traders by payment of a fat ox or the value of it. The traders had frequently to import grain at high cost to meet the native craving for food and did not as a rule profit much on their bargains. Still, the Basuto were so overcome by the mysterious change to their disadvantage in selling and purchasing prices that they were forbidden to sell Europeans certain necessaries of life, such as fuel, milk, etc., and when the new wheat crop was harvested the sale of it was forbidden by the chiefs under a value fixed by them. The boycott naturally broke down in time, as the traders were, of course, unable to pay more for wheat than the market warranted. This offered, while it lasted, a great impediment to trade and was injurious to the mercantile community as well as inconvenient to the public. In one case a son of Masupha so far misbehaved himself as to forcibly blockade the whole trade of one shop after the embargo had been removed. Failing to come to reason he was eventually summoned and fined.

12. The trading community have long and loudly complained of the disabilities under which they suffer by being almost entirely excluded from the great Transvaal grain markets on account of the prohibitory tariff imposed on Basutoland produce. This matter was brought to your Excellency's notice in September last by request of the Basutoland Traders' Association.

13. At the Annual Pitso in October last the people were strongly urged to endeavour by concerted action to attack locusts and destroy them. In a number of instances the advice was acted upon with signal effect, whole swarms being nearly exterminated by the following methods:—

(1.) Tramping the flying insects while torpid by herds of cattle.

(2.) Driving the voetgangers on to patches of cut grass and then burning.

14. The chiefs and headmen have as a rule behaved uncommonly well in regard to recovering stolen stock and bringing criminals to justice. The Chief Masupha gave considerable trouble by delaying unduly payment of his Hut Tax. The matter entailed a good deal of persuasion and pressure by the Resident Commissioner.

15. Proclamations having legislative effect were issued during the year:—

(1.) Relating to quarantine in connection with foot and-mouth disease.

(2.) Amending the pension regulations.

16. The effects of foot-and-mouth disease were not grave, but few cattle appear to have died from it, and no medical treatment was found necessary.

17. Government experienced a calamity in September by the total destruction through fire of the Quartermaster's stores, containing a good reserve of police equipment and other material, valued approximately at 2,500*l*. The principal Government buildings at Maseru are now insured.

18. In view of various representations, and particularly with the object of checking stock stealing, which had been reported from the East Griqualand border of the Cape Colony, it was found expedient to establish, in November last, a new station in the Mountain District at a spot about 20 miles from the town of Matatiele. Mr. C. Griffith, the officer stationed there, has done good initiatory work. His presence has been felt by stock thieves, and the general effect is undoubtedly beneficial. The site is about to be opened up to wagon communication, which may develop a new sphere of trade.

19. A separate report on education will be sent so soon as the returns are before me.

20. The returns of grain exported from Basutoland for the year ended 31st December 1892, viz., 87,658 bags, show a considerable falling off from the previous year, due to paucity of crops.

21. The figures showing 29,477 attendances at free dispensaries speak for themselves, and clearly illustrate how much the labour of the medical officers and the facilities afforded are appreciated.

22. It is satisfactory to observe from the return of lost stock that almost everything traced to Bastuoland was recovered.

23. The missionaries of all denominations continue to pursue earnestly and successfully their valuable civilizing and educational work.

24. I have the honour, in conclusion, to draw attention to the interesting and instructive report of the Acting Government Secretary and to bring to your Excellency's notice the good and effective services of the officers discharging the duties of the Administration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner,
&c. &c. &c.
South Africa.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland, July 1, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the following reports on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1893:—

Assistant Commissioner,	Leribe.
Do.	Berea.
Do.	Maseru.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohalies Hoek.
Do.	Quthing.
Medical Officer,	Maseru.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohalies Hoek.
Do.	Leribe.

The general statistics compare very favourably with those of preceding years.

In spite of the severe damages experienced from the ravages of locusts and other enemies of the crops last harvest season, which caused great depression in trade and suffering to the natives, the country continues prosperous, though grave anxiety existed when the Hut Tax became payable, owing to poverty and fears of a renewed bad harvest. The last wheat crops, however, survived, and being followed by abundant crops of mealies, the country is now well stocked with food, which Government officers are endeavouring to impress upon the people to be provident of in future.

In many cases the natives were so pressed for food that they consumed their supply of seed. In some of the worst districts relief works were organised on the public roads, in order that the poorest class might obtain a supply of seed. They were paid for their labour in grain, and these works were much appreciated.

In the spring some large swarms of locusts, which hatched out in the northern districts, were exterminated by the active co-operation of chiefs and people with the district officers. In various other parts of the country also the people were successful in destroying large numbers of the winged insects.

From the appended return it will be seen that the general Revenue has maintained itself, making due allowances for proportional increases. Some unnecessary and wilful delay occurred in certain districts in the payment of Hut Tax, and caused considerable inconvenience to the administration, inasmuch as such delays interfere with the execution of public work. This was most marked in the Berea district. The arrear Hut Tax collected during the year under report is considerably less than that collected the previous year. This points to a more perfected system of collection.

From the tabulated return of Lost Stock reported at the various offices during the year it will be seen that in nearly all cases

where the stock so reported has been actually traced into this territory, it has been recovered. The quantity of stock reported as lost, but which has not been traced into Basutoland, is remarkable, and must be attributed to the custom of the border farmers of reporting all instances of strayed stock as stolen. These people do not even take the trouble to report the recovery of their property, which, in some instances, is found on their own farms.

The statistics of crime display a large percentage of prosecutions for the contravention of the Liquor Regulations. In connection with this, I would refer to the return of patrols, and mileage estimated to have been travelled by Basutoland police, which shows an estimated patrollage of 18,990 miles. Although there is no very material increase in arrests for these offences, it is unfortunately notorious that brandy smuggling has much increased during the past year, chiefly along the central line of the Caledon river. Some of the leading chiefs, who should show a better example, are well known to have encouraged the traffic, and, in some cases, even to have connived at the sale of it in small quantities in the territory.

It appears from the district reports that a considerable number of canteens are carrying on this pernicious traffic along the border of the Orange Free State. The trade does not appear to be carried on on a large scale by the bulk of the illicit sellers, except in the border towns. Several persons have been prosecuted and fined in the Landdrosts' Courts, by the co-operation of our police; but this does not seem to deter them, as any fine is easily paid out of the immense profits made. On the Basutoland side, owing to the broken nature of the country and the sympathy of the population, it is most difficult for our police to discover and arrest the natives who smuggle the liquor across the border in bottles.

The Caledon river is, in the summer season, to some extent an effective barrier when in flood, but at this time of the year it is fordable at any point.

The Medical Officer at Leribe draws attention in his report to the large number of cases of wounds and bruises treated by him which are attributable to this deplorable taste for strong drink of both Native and European manufacture.

During the year 49,901 passes have been issued, of which 19,518 were to persons who left the territory in search of employment at the various mining centres and in the neighbouring territories. These people bring into the country large sums of money, the results of their labour. The balance left the country on visits and for various other purposes.

The strength of the Police is:—

Officers - - - - - -	10
European constables - - - -	10
Native non-commissioned officers - -	16
Native privates - - - - -	197

The conduct of the men is good, and their efficiency satisfactory. A new police station has been established at Qacha's Nek, on the border between Basutoland and East Griqualand, under charge of an officer. This has had a very salutary effect in the suppression of stock thefts, the greater part of the population in that vicinity being Tembus, who are notorious thieves.

It is estimated from returns that there are about 189 lepers in the country. Tribal attempts to segregate them have been unsatisfactory, owing probably to the fact that the people do not fully realise the contagious nature of the disease.

It appears from the District Reports that the schools receiving Government grants have been visited during the year by Government officers, who report that they are in a satisfactory condition. The number of scholars on the books is 7,140, and the amount granted towards education is 3,708*l*. In the autumn months the daily attendance fluctuates very much, owing to the employment of the children in aiding to harvest.

The following useful and necessary Public Works have been carried out :—

Erection of Officers' quarters, Qacha's Nek.
„ Gaoler's quarters, Maseru.
„ Quartermaster's store, Maseru.
„ Public offices, Berea.
„ Stabling at officers' mess, Maseru.

Maintenance and fair repair of the principal roads and various repairs and alterations to existing buildings.

The repair of the roads is a difficult and costly undertaking, owing to the mountainous character of the country and the heavy annual rainfall.

Half the cost of about two miles of wire fencing on the Basutoland–Orange Free State border has been met.

The Quartermaster's store has been built to replace that which was unfortunately destroyed by fire in September last by accident, with all its contents — a full new equipment of uniform and saddlery for the police estimated at 2,500*l*.

The trade of the country, in spite of great depression during the early part of the year, has not been altogether bad. Great stocks of wheat and mealies are held by the traders awaiting a rise in value; in view of the probable visitation of locusts next year, and of the fact that a great deal of the Free State early wheat crop has already been demolished by these insects, cereals may realize very high prices next year.

The weed known as Xanthium Spinosum, or Burr weed, is rapidly increasing and spreading over the whole country, to the great detriment of the wool, and unless decisive steps are taken to eradicate it, that product will be of no commercial value.

The Customs Returns of Imports, were naturally affected in the first half of the year by the Basuto having no grain to trade, this being the purchasing power of the country.

The average local prices ruie as follows for Basutoland produce:—

Wheat, 11*s.* per muid.
Mealies, 5*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per muid.
Oats, 8*s.* per muid.
Forage, 20*s.* per 100 bundles.
Ponies, 100*s.* each.
Tobacco, 1*s.* per lb.
Cattle, 60*s.* each.
Sheep, 12*s.* each.
Goats, 6*s.* each.
Wool, 2*d.* to 4*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 6½*d.* per lb.
Hides, 3½*d.* per lb.

The Customs work, which was decentralised as a part of the district system, has been grafted on the general system of administration under the supervision of this office quietly and effectively, has been admirably worked, and is well looked after.

Foot-and-mouth disease having appeared among the cattle in the Free State, quarantine was proclaimed and traffic suspended. However the disease was introduced into Basutoland by a team of oxen which crossed the border a few days before the proclamation was issued. Attempts to isolate it were futile and it was then considered best to allow the disease to run its course through the country while it was still summer and pasturage good and cattle fat. The quarantine was suspended, and this proves to have been a wise step, for the disease, which attacked the cattle in a mild form, has nearly died out without having caused any serious loss.

It will be noticed from the medical officers' reports how enormously the work has grown at the free dispensaries. This shows conclusively how fully the work is appreciated by the Basuto, who are learning to prefer European methods to their own superstitious and primitive treatment.

All the district establishments are conducted on a uniform system, which works smoothly and effectively.

I append the following statistical Returns:—

Return of revenue in detail.
„ lost stock.
„ licenses.
„ passes.
„ civil and criminal cases.
Educational return.
Return of patrols.
„ exports.
„ patients treated in free dispensaries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Return of Revenue in detail for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	18,983 0 4
Post Office - - - - - -	939 13 8
Licenses - - - - - -	2,850 12 9
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	79 11 8
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	191 15 1
	£ 23,044 13 6

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Schedule of Lost Stock reported at the various district offices in Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Description.	Reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Remarks.
Horses* -	91	27	64	28	*Two were reported to have been recovered by owner on a neighbouring farm.
Cattle - -	150	60	90	52	
Sheep - -	708	38	670	46	

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Schedule of Number of Licences issued in the various districts of Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

General Traders.	Hawkers.	Free Hawkers.	Mill dam Licences.
128	82	76	2

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Number of Passes issued to Natives leaving Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Number of Natives who obtained Passes to seek work.	Number of Natives who obtained Passes for other purposes.	Total number of Natives who obtained Passes.
19,640	30,261	49,901

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Educational Return for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Total number of scholars on school registers - 7,140
Total number of schools - - - 122
Total amount expended on education during the year 1892–93 - - - - £3,708

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Patrols performed by Basutoland Police during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Number of Patrols performed.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated distance patrolled by collective patrols.	Number of arrests for contravention of Liquor and Pass Regulations.
633	1,773	18,990	157

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the various Assistant Commissioners' Courts in Basutoland during year ended June 30, 1893.

	No. of cases.
Theft - - - -	77
Assault - - - -	14
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm -	1
Culpable homicide - - -	8
Murder - - - -	1
Rape - - - -	1
Contravention of liquor regulations - -	120
Contravention of pass regulations - -	37
Contravention of quarantine regulations foot-and-mouth disease - - -	5
Resisting and assaulting police - -	15
Obstructing police - - -	1
Creating a disturbance - - -	1
Obstructing trade - - -	1
Contravention trading regulations, section 8 -	5
Contravention Customs regulations - -	4
Offences against gaol discipline - -	4
Attempt to corrupt public officer - -	1
Escaping from custody - - -	2
Contravention of firearm regulations -	6
Forgery - - - -	1
Housebreaking - - -	2
Embezzlement - - - -	1
Contravention of reserve regulations -	2
Destroying public works - - -	1
Fraud - - - -	1
Breaking prison - - -	1
Total - - - -	313
Civil suits - - - -	14

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Grain Exported from and imported into Basutoland for the year 1892.

Grain exported from Basutoland.

During year 1891.				During year 1892.		
Wheat.	Mealies.	Kaffir Corn.	Oats and Barley.	Wheat.	Mealies.	Kaffir Corn.
95,132	66,327	1,945	351	66,280	20,186	1,192

Grain imported into Basutoland, 1892.

Wheat.	Meal.	Kaffir Corn.
849	8,446	2,747

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Attendances by Patients for treatment at the Government Dispensaries, Basutoland, for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Outdoor attendances.		In patients.	
1891–92.	1892–93.	1891–92.	1892–93.
21,807	29,337	105	140

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1893.

I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner in this district on the 18th March 1893.

The fighting between the people of the Chiefs Joel and Matela, which took place in August 1892, and which is more fully alluded to in Mr. Boxwell's report, has not since been renewed.

The removal of a few of Joel's people from Matela's ground and the fines and imprisonment inflicted on those who took a prominent part in the disturbance, appear to have had a satisfactory effect in keeping the peace.

A dispute between the Chiefs Jonathan and Peete Lisavana as to ploughing rights in the neighbourhood of Dipeteng, has been reported to me, but it has not so far appeared to be necessary

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

to take action beyond advising the Chiefs to come to an agreement based upon the delimitation of their rights as definedseveral years ago by the officers of the Colonial Government. I forward a report upon the schools receiving Government aid.*

I have not been able during the past quarter to make a very satisfactory inspection of the Schools, as during the harvest months the services of many of the children are required by their parents for reaping, and the attendance on the days of inspection has been below the average.

During the past season the Chiefs have to a great extent prohibited the sale of produce by the people to traders and others Europeans. They have probably been influenced partly by a feeling of resentment for the high prices charged at some stores for food stuffs during the period of scarcity before the wheat harvest, and partly by a desire to prevent their people from parting with necessary supplies of food for the coming months Since the cold season commenced and supplies of blankets and clothing have been required by the Basuto, this restriction has apparently been removed. Wheat has been sold for about 15*s.* a muid, mealies for 5*s.* per muid, and small quantities of Kaffir corn at about 10*s.* As the people were at all times allowed to sell sufficient produce to enable them to pay their taxes, very little stock and grain has been received in payment of hut tax.

While the restriction on the grain trade was in force, I have not considered it well to recommend the issue of new trading licences.

Notwithstanding quarantine regulations foot-and mouth disease made its appearance in the country in the summer, but occasioned little loss.

The damage to crops caused by locusts was trifling, and a quantity of these insects were destroyed in the early stages of their existence by the people co-operating under the direction of Government officers.

The crops have been above the average and the food supply is abundant.

An unfortunate result of the abundance of grain and consequent manufacture and consumption of native beer has been a number of drunken brawls at feasts and dances.

The medical officer in his report draws attention to the number of wounds and bruises inflicted at these beer drinks.

Four cases of culpable homicide arising from the fatal results of drunken fights with sticks have been dealt with by combined courts.

It has not been brought to my notice that any considerable amount of brandy is smuggled into the district.

The officers and police of the Orange Free State are active in suppressing any illicit liquor traffic and generally in co-operation with me in maintenance of law and order on the border.

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* Not printed.

The Chief Jonathan Molapo and other chiefs have given me the necessary assistance in the collection of Revenue and detection of crime.

The usual annual returns are attached.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Revenue collected in Leribe District for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	4,841 18 0
Licences - - - - - - -	388 12 6
Fines - - - - - - -	139 14 0
Ferry tolls - - - - - - -	23 3 6
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	4 6 6
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	13 17 0
	5,411 11 6

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - -	12	1	11	3	8
Cattle - -	13	6	7	6	7
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

Schedule of Number of Passes issued, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	3,044
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	6,544
Total	9,588

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Number of Licences granted, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

General traders	24
Hawkers' licences	29
Hawkers' licences (free)	16

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Civil and Criminal Cases, Leribe District, for the Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Civil cases	8
Assault	6
Contravention liquor regulations	9
Contravention Pass Laws	14
Resisting or assaulting police	7
Theft	21
Rape	1
Trading without licence	2
Contravention Customs Regulations	3
Contravention High Commissioner's Proclamation, *re* cattle quarantine	2
Offences against gaol discipline	4
Attempt to corrupt a public officer	1
Culpable homicide (tried by combined court)	4

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, Sub-district BUTHA BUTHE, LERIBE DISTRICT, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

General.

The year I regret to say, has not passed without disturbance. During July and the early part of August relations were very strained between the people of Matela and those of Joel who were still living in Matela's ward. On August 11th and 12th fighting took place between Mabine's men and Ntsoana, and three or four people were killed. Leboea also was attacked and ran away to the Free State. On August the 25th the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief arrived in Thlotsi to try Leboea and Ntsoana, and others who had taken part in the fighting. Leboea and Ntsoana were fined and ordered to remove from Matela's ward. This order they at once obeyed, and thus one source of trouble in this district has been done away with.

In October the young locusts appeared in great numbers, and it was feared at one time that widespread damage would be done to the crops. Chiefs Joel, Ilasua, and Molupi turned out their men and did good work in destroying the locusts, and the damage was confined to a very small area.

On November the 5th the foot-and-mouth disease was reported to have appeared on the Free State farms along the border. All the wagon drifts in this ward were watched and precautions taken as far as possible to prevent the disease from spreading into Basutoland. In spite, however, of all that could be done, the disease appeared among the cattle in this country, but fortunately caused little or no loss.

In March, 1893, Chief Motsoeni reported that some of his rope grass had been stolen, by Joel's people, it was said, and at first it was feared that this might lead to a disturbance between Jonathan and Joel, but it did not do so. The Paramount Chief sent up his brother to inquire into the matter, and as no evidence was found against Joel's people, the case dropped.

The crops have been very good indeed this year. More wheat is grown in this ward year by year. The Kaffir corn, which at one time was likely to be a failure, is, I think, above the average.

Crime.

I regret to have to report three cases of serious crime in this ward during the year. In May a fight took place in a village near this, and one man was killed, and in June another fight took place in Matela's ward, and a man was killed there also. The perpetrators of these crimes have been tried and punished.

A murder was also committed in Matela's ward. In June a woman was found dead just outside her hut, her neck having been broken. A man has been arrested on suspicion for this murder; but it is very doubtful if he is the guilty man.

Six minor criminal cases have been tried at Butha Buthe during the year, and five civil cases have also been heard.

I am glad to be able to report that there has been again an increase in the amount of hut tax collected. It has this year reached the sum of 1,219*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.*, or about 100*l.* more than in any previous year. The total Revenue is also in excess of any other year by about 80*l.*, being 1,343*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* General traders' licenses reached 110*l.*, but there has been a great falling off in the number of hawkers' licences.

Roads.

The roads in this ward are now in very good order. During the past year I have had the drift over the Qalo put in thorough repair and the Butha Buthe drift cut down, and the road to Sicubu put in order. A short piece of road has been made in the Machachaneng. I have already submitted to you a report on the extension of that road.

Trade.

There are now eleven general traders' stores in this ward. For a considerable portion of the past year trade was very bad, and is still only fair.

Schools.

There are three schools in my ward receiving Government aid, two under the French Protestant Church, and one under the English Church. The total numbers on the books are 80 boys and 21 girls.

My relations with the Free State officials continue friendly, and those magistrates give me all the assistance in their power.

I subjoin list of Annual Returns, which I forward herewith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. Boxwell,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Revenue collected in Butha Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax - - - - - - - -	1,219 3 0
Licences - - - - - - - -	122 0 0
Fines - - - - - - - -	0 5 0
Fees - - - - - - - -	0 13 6
Miscellaneous Receipts - - - - -	1 0 0
Total - - - - - - - -	£1,343 1 6

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Butha Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses - -	25	10	15	10	15
Cattle - -	6	—	6	—	6
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Number of Passes issued Butha Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment -	1,935
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	5,056
Total - - - - -	6,991

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Butha Buthe Sub-district Leribe District, for the year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders - - - - -	11
Hawkers' licences - - - -	7
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - -	5

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Medical Officer's Report for the year ended 30th June, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the health in this district has been good throughout the year, no epidemic disease having been observed.

The attendance at the public dispensary and hospital has been 3,851 cases, of which 3,275 were new ones. These numbers show an increase of 219 patients over last year's report, notwithstanding the epidemic influenza then prevalent, 750 cases more than the year ended 30th June 1891, and are a satisfactory proof of the growing confidence natives are gradually getting in Government hospitals. They, however, only apply to Jonathan's district, as Joel's men, for political reasons, refrain from mixing with the former's and are hardly ever seen at consultation hours.

Twenty-six cases have been admitted into the newly erected hospital, 20 for major operations (cataract, extractions, tumours, amputations) 3 for tertiary syphilis, 2 for acute rheumatism, and 1 for acute dysentery.

From the annexed table, showing the relative frequency of diseases, it may be seen that after ordinary digestive troubles, from which natives constantly suffer, rheumatism and bronchial affections are foremost and are doubtlessly caused by the tendency of raw natives to wear European clothing, which makes them less hardy to exposure.

The same cause as well as want of cleanliness applies to skin diseases, the blanket with its wide meshes forming a more suitable nidus for germs than the old smooth-surfaced bullock hide.

Wounds and bruises have been extremely frequent, nor does the number, 229, cover all the cases known. Beer drinking, resulting in free fights, have most to do with these casualties.

It may also be noted that syphilis is decidedly on the decrease, whether because the disease having been very prevalent at one time has lost its virulence, or perhaps natives are more alive to the treatment to follow in each case.

The 116 cases recorded do not, however, give a true statistic; many patients, having to walk long distances to get medicines, prefer to buy them in shops or elsewhere than to bring the patient himself to the hospital.

Gonorrhea is still prevalent, as well as other uterine ailments, among women.

Several cases of abortions, premature births, and impotence among men may be attributed to venereal diseases and sexual depravity.

Leprosy is more or less stationary; only four cases came to my notice this year.

Tubercular phthisis was detected in three cases, and seemed to have been acquired at the diamond fields.

The health of the mounted police has generally been good; a corporal died in hospital from acute dysentery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

BEREA DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the year ended 30th June 1893.

On the 10th April I took over the charge of the district from Sub-Inspector F. Enraght-Moony, who was Acting Assistant Commissioner.

The past year has been a quiet one in this district, and there is little of political importance to report.

There have been one or two slight disputes between the lesser Chiefs, but these either have been, or are now being, settled by the Chief Masupha.

In the earlier portion of the year the Chief Patse Mota, who was mentioned in last year's report as having left the district, returned to it and has been partially reinstated in his old position. Chief Masupha has informed me that he intends very shortly to go personally to the spot and arrange all disputed points.

Mooiketse Masupha, one of Masupha's minor sons, on account of a personal grudge, closed for a time the store of one of the traders in his ward. He was fined in this Court, but refused to pay unless the trader left. However, pressure being brought to bear on him, he paid his fine and the shop was re-opened.

The case attracted considerable notice, both among Europeans and Natives, being apparently regarded as a test case.

Senekal Masupha also a little later declined to restore a watch and 4*l.* sterling which he had seized from two natives of the Orange Free State who were suspected of wishing to abduct one of his women. He, however, eventually complied with the order of the Court.

With regard to the above question there appear to be much soreness caused among the Basuto by the working of the Free State law with regard to their women. They complain that should the women be seduced from their husbands into the Free State, they (their husbands) can obtain little or no redress according to the law of the Free State. This point the Chief Masupha and other Chiefs of the district continually complain to me of.

I regret to say that in the last few months there has been a serious revival of the brandy trade, although the border is constantly patrolled by police. The trade does not appear to be done by any one person on a large scale, but by numbers of different natives with a stock of a few bottles each.

The police detachment consists of:—

1 sub-inspector of police,
2 non-commissioned officers,
23 privates,
all mounted.

The heavy autumn rains have done some damage to the roads necessitating an extra grant, by aid of which I hope they will soon be in good order.

Dr. Savage, the Medical Officer at Maseru, in the early part of the year paid a few visits here, during which he vaccinated a considerable number of natives. Inquiry has shown that there are 63 lepers in the district.

In the early half of the year there was considerable distress and want owing to failure of last year's crops from ravages of locusts and other causes. The want was relieved on reaping the summer crop of wheat, and the mealie crop this winter is a very heavy one.

Grain prices rule locally as under:—

Wheat, per muid, 10*s*. to 12*s*.
Mealies, per muid, 4*s*. to 6*s*.
Kaffir corn, per muid, 18*s*. to 22*s*.

There has been remarkably little stock reported at this office as lost from the Orange Free State.

The following cases were heard in this court during the year:—

Civil cases - - - - -	2
Theft - - - - - -	11
Contravention section 7 (Liquor) - -	9
,, Pass Regulations - - -	6
,, section 8 (Trading) - -	3
Contravention Customs Regulations - -	1
Resisting police - - - - -	5
Creating disturbance - - - -	1
Obstructing trade - - - -	1

Throughout the year the Orange Free State authorities have uniformly rendered every assistance.

The Revenue as regards hut tax compares rather unfavourably with that of last year. The Revenue for the year is as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	2,755	14	0
Licences - - - -	277	0	0
Fines - - - - -	127	7	6
Fees of Court - - - -	1	9	0
Miscellaneous - - - -	1	13	0
	£3,163	3	6

The buildings on the station are in good repair, and new public offices will shortly be completed.

My report on the Government aided schools has already been sent separately.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted in Berea District for Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders - - - - -	24
Hawkers' licenses - - - -	27
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - -	11

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Berea District, for Year ended June 30th, 1893.

Passes issued to persons in search of work -	3,312
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	4,216
Total - - - - -	7,528

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule Lost Stock Reports, Berea District, for Year ended June 30th, 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered
Horses - -	4	3	1	2	2
Cattle - -	13	—	13	—	13
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) L. Wroughton,
Assistant Commissioner.

Maseru District.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

General.

Two matters of political importance arose during the past year, viz., the calling in of his late father's cattle by the Paramount Chief and a dispute as to the chieftainship over a tract of country known as Korokoro.

It had always been feared that the calling in of these cattle would lead to much trouble, if not actual fighting, owing to the reluctance of the younger sons to give up the cattle and their increase, some of which had been for many years in their caretaking, and last January the Chief Maama disregarded the Paramount Chief's order to produce those he was in charge of.

The trouble at Korokoro arose from the fact that during his life Letsie had been in the habit of employing Maama to settle such matters as arose in that neighbourhood and generally to perform on his behalf such acts of chieftainship as from time to time were necessary for the tribal government there. After Letsie's death Maama claimed the district as part of his own ward, alleging that it had been given to him by his father.

Both these matters, which indeed were closely connected with each other, came to a head about the same time, and were settled by the Resident Commissioner on 1st June.

I regret to say that liquor smuggling has increased of late. The liquor is sold at illicit canteens in the Orange Free State. Three persons keeping such canteens have been convicted and punished by the Landdrost's Court at Ladybrand by the co-operation of our police. Meanwhile every effort is being made to arrest persons bringing the liquor into Basutoland, but this can only be imperfectly done with the means at my disposal, owing to the long stretch of open border, some twenty miles in extent, over which brandy is brought in small quantities by horsemen. The Caledon river is sometimes a help in checking smuggling, but for months past it has been fordable anywhere, and so has ceased to be of much use as a barrier.

During the last four months of 1892 great scarcity prevailed in this district owing to the ravages of locusts in the early part of the year, and reported in my last year report's.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crop had been totally destroyed, and the people were reduced to great straits to provide themselves with food. Mealies had to be imported from Bechuanaland and elsewhere, and were sold to the natives at enormous prices. Cattle depreciated in value as the price of grain went up, and fat cattle were bartered for half a muid of mealies per head.

Early in the spring foot-and-mouth disease appeared in the Free State among the cattle, and quarantine was proclaimed.

The quarantine was, however, not successful in keeping the disease out of the country, and as soon as it appeared in Basutoland the quarantine was removed. The disease ran its course through the district, but did little or no damage owing to the time of the year at which it appeared. Had it been kept off until winter, when what little pasturage there is is hard and dry, heavy losses would have been sustained.

Large swarms of locusts appeared late in the autumn, but fortunately too late to damage the crops. There are still a quantity of them in the neighbouring districts of the Orange Free State, and I fear there is reason to apprehend a visitation from them or their descendants in the spring.

Population.

This has probably increased since last Census; it was then 45,402 souls.

Education.

I attach a report* on the schools receiving Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade has been very bad, but recently it has improved a little. This is satisfactory as far as it goes; but I fear there is little cause to hope that the improvement will continue as, in view of a possible visitation of locusts in the spring and summer, the natives will be afraid to part with their grain, and that is mainly the purchasing power of the country.

Public Works.

The roads in the district are in good repair.

Police.

The police force attached to my office consist of:—

2 Sub-inspectors.
2 European constables.
1 Native sergeant.
3 „ corporals.
46 „ privates and one gaoler.

attach return of lost stock.

* Not printed.

Crime.

Serious crime continues to be rare. I append a list of cases tried in my court during the year:—

	Cases.
Theft	16
Housebreaking	3
Embezzlement	2
Fraud	1
Breaking prison	1
Contravening pass regulations	9
Contravening liquor regulations	13
Contravening firearms regulations	3
Assault	1
Manslaughter	1
Assaulting police	3
Obstructing police	1
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm	1
Contravening reserve regulations	1
Contravening foot-and mouth disease proclamation	1

Revenue.

The revenue shows an increase on that of last year by 456*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* The increase is in the Post Office, hut tax, and fines. The increase in the Postal Revenue, of 182*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, is mainly due to the establishment of a telegraph office. The increase in hut tax is 106*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* This would point to an increased population, although 43*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* of it is accounted for by profit made on the sale of stock and grain. It is interesting to note that the proportion of arrear hut tax becomes each year less, as, for instance, 621*l.* in 1890–91, 360*l.* 10*s.* last year, and 202*l.* this year.

I attach return of Revenue in detail.

Passes.

I attach return of passes issued.

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues to be of a friendly nature, and I have pleasure in testifying to the cordial co-operation invariably afforded by the Landdrost of Ladybrand.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Maseru, June 30, 1893.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	3,964 18 4
Licences	251 0 0
Fines	402 4 6
Ferry tolls	239 9 9
Fees of Court or Office	70 1 11
Miscellaneous receipts	153 16 1
Postal revenue	939 13 8
	6,021 4 3

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders	22
Hawker's licences	6
Hawkers' licences (free)	4

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	3,813
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	3,454
Total	7,267

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Maseru District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	26	4	22	4	*22
Cattle - - -	55	29	26	29	26
Sheep - - -	—	—	—	—	—

* Two recovered on owner's own farm in Orange Free State.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT, 1892-93.

Office of Assistant Commissioner of Maseru,
July 1, 1893.

The health of the district for the last twelve months has been good, notwithstanding the increase of hospital and dispensary work.

There have been no epidemics. Eleven cases of typhoid fever and 11 of dysentery came under my notice, none, however, being fatal, and I heard of no other cases of zymotic disease. Influenza was extremely prevalent during the year, especially in the months of August and September ; 290 cases were treated, all mild in type and uncomplicated, though more severe than last year. There were no deaths

In January, November, and December there were a great many cases of a skin disease called lekhoekhoe by the natives, an eruption of boils or pustules, due to a great extent from poverty of blood, brought on by scarcity of food and restricted diet, though no cases of actual starvation were reported to me.

Ophthalmia was very prevalent in May and April, 337 cases were seen at the Dispensary. There was a marked diminution in the number of cases of mocaula or syphilis treated at the Dispensary, 477 cases compared with 644 during last year. This yearly decrease in the percentage of cases shows that treatment has proved very effectual in checking the spread of the disease ; habits contributing more to the spread of the disease than immorality.

Only one fresh case of leprosy appeared at the Hospital, but I visited a colony of nine lepers at Hangers Drift, all Bastards ; the disease, originally brought from the Colony through the Free

State, had spread from one to another. They were separated from the other people who lived near by.

Eleven cases of phthisis were treated at the Dispensary, being very few in proportion to the number of attendances.

The health of the police and prisoners in gaol has been good, though one of the former died suddenly.

Hospital and Dispensary attendances :—

Outdoor new cases - - - -	6,150
Subsequent attendances - - - -	1,000
Indoor new cases - - - -	66
Indoor attendances - - - -	1,148

There were no deaths in Hospital, most of the cases being surgical.

On receiving the news of an outbreak of small-pox at Johannesberg an arm-to-arm vaccination was commenced at Maseru, and all unvaccinated persons in the village were vaccinated, as well as a great many from the surrounding villages—over 1,500. I also visited Teyateyaning once a week for a month and vaccinated over 500 people there. But no small-pox appearing in Basutoland the people lost interest in the process and ceased to return after being vaccinated ; the supply of lymph ran short and the general vaccination stopped. But I think that it would be expedient to recommence vaccination as soon as we can obtain sufficient and reliable lymph ; that lymph also be supplied to all the missionaries, who are quite able to propagate the lymph, so that all who are willing may be vaccinated as soon as possible. The Basuto, who have well learnt the benefits conferred by successful vaccination at the last outbreak of small-pox in the country, are quite willing, if not anxious, to be vaccinated in order to avoid the disease.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE,
Medical Officer.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

I. On the 9th February 1893 the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief held a meeting at Makeneng to instal Letsie Lerothodi as Chief of Mafeteng District. Suitable counsellors were at the same time appointed to assist the young Chief in dealing with such cases and questions as may be brought before him. Subsequently the Resident Commissioner appointed Letsie a Native officer in the Basutoland Police.

Surrounded as he was by flatterers and persons anxious to gain his favour, Letsie, on first finding himself in a somewhat independent position, showed an inclination to disregard the

advice of his officially appointed councillors and to assert himself and, consequently, when dealing with Native questions, he committed several indiscretions.

I availed myself of every opportunity to warn Letsie against listening to bad advisers, and I am now glad to report that I have latterly noticed a marked improvement in his behaviour.

II. In February an old-standing boundary dispute resulted in an affray between some people of Chief Seiso and Leluma; one man died from wounds received in the disturbance and several other men sustained severe injuries.

This case was tried by a combined court, and the combatants, 47 in number, were sentenced to pay fines, compensation being awarded to the relatives of the man who died from injuries received in the affray.

Two other boundary quarrels occurred between Seiso and his neighbours during the past year; one at Ramoetsana's and another at Pitso Mafa's; these latter were of a more trivial nature and were adjusted by the Paramount Chief, who at the same time defined the boundaries.

During March another old dispute, relative to reeds and reserve grass, was renewed between Mojela Letsie and Azariel Mokochane, and both chiefs sent out armed parties to protect their rights, but collision was averted by timely advice, and the disputed boundary has since been more clearly defined.

III. Towards the end of March the dead body of a Fingoe, formerly residing in Khaba's village, Chief Seiso's ward, was found tied with reims and concealed in a deep hole in the Cornet Spruit. The man had evidently been murdered, and suspicion was directed to two men living in Khaba's village; but before they could be arrested these men absconded, and although diligent inquiries have been made no trace of the fugitives has yet been discovered.

IV. I have much pleasure in acknowledging the efforts of the officers of the Orange Free State Government in endeavouring to stop the illicit sale of brandy in their districts, particularly in the town and District of Wepener. Several illicit brandy sellers have been convicted in the Orange Free State Courts for selling liquor to natives, but as they make large profits the punishment does not appear to deter them, and illicit canteens are still as numerous as they were last year.

I submit that the root of the evil would appear to exist principally in the town of Wepener, where the hotel proprietors not only supply some of the Border canteen-keepers with brandy, but also sell largely to Basutoland natives.

As every facility is offered to the Basuto residing near the Wepener border to buy brandy, it has now become quite a recognised custom to have it at most feasts and dances, when it is mixed with the native beer, and the result is most disastrous to those who drink the liquor.

It is evident that the people residing along the western border of this district are becoming impoverished, and that one-third of them are drunkards. The habitual brandy drinkers use every precaution while smuggling spirits into the country, and although the Basutoland Border was vigilantly patrolled by mounted police, only eighty-seven (87), a small proportion of the smugglers, were arrested in this district during the past year.

V. The Chiefs in this district have rendered me great assistance in tracing lost or stolen stock and in detecting crimes and offences.

VI. The crops of 1892 were almost entirely eaten up by swarms of locusts; consequently there was great scarcity of food, almost amounting to famine, and the price of mealies rose as high as 35*s.* a muid.

The people had not much money, and it was estimated that 3,000 head of cattle were received by traders in exchange for grain brought from North Basutoland, Orange Free State, and Cape Colony.

In September, 1892, I was authorised by the Resident Commissioner to establish relief works on the public roads to enable the poorest class of natives to obtain grain for food and seed. The result was most satisfactory, and numbers of natives availed themselves of the opportunity and worked willingly for grain.

VII. The last season's crops were very good, and food is now plentiful in all parts of this district.

The following are the ruling prices for Basutoland produce and tock :—

Wheat, 12*s.* per muid
Mealies, 6*s.* 6*d.* per muid.
Oats, 6*s.* per muid.
Barley, 7*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 13*s.* per muid.
Oat hay, 20*s.* per 100 bundles.
Goats, 5*s.* to 7*s.*
Wool, 4*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 9*d.* per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 9*d.* per lb.
Hides, 3½*d.* per lb.
Horned cattle, 2*l.* to 4*l*
Sheep, 7*s.* to 12*s.*
Basuto ponies, 3*l.* to 6*l.*

VIII. The Free Dispensary was well attended during the past year; I attach a report from the Medical Officer. A Return of persons supposed to be afflicted with leprosy is being framed, with a view to ameliorating their condition, and when this return

is completed it will be submitted to the Medical Officer for his report.

IX. Road parties were constantly employed on the public roads, which are now in fair order.

A new hospital ward was built, and all the Government buildings which required repair have received attention.

X. Government officers have inspected the 26 aided schools in this district, and the work of education is making satisfactory progress.

XI. The civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, were as follows :—

Cases tried by combined court - -	3
Civil actions - - - - -	4
Thefts - - - - -	20
Assaults - - - - -	6
Contravening Proclamation Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Quarantine Regulations - -	1
Contravening section 7 Liquor Regulations -	87
Contravening section 6 Pass Regulations -	1
Escaping from custody - - -	1
Contravening section 19 Basutoland Regulations	3
Cases dismissed - - - -	4

XII. The total revenue amounted to 3,908*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, which shows a decrease of 12*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* when compared with the collection of 1891–92. There was an increase in all receipts except hut tax, and the falling off in the latter can be accounted for by the fact that less arrear tax was paid in 1892–93 than during the previous year.

XIII. I attach schedules as under :—

Medical Officer's Report.
Return of lost and stolen stock.
Return of revenue.
Return of hawkers' licences.
Return of licensed traders.
Return of passes issued.

(Signed) T. P KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	4,130
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	4,336
Total	8,466

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders	20
Hawkers' licenses	9
Hawkers' licenses (free)	34

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	3,467 9 0
Licences	209 0 0
Fines	213 11 0
Fees	6 18 6
Miscellaneous	11 3 0
	£3,908 1 6

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - -	11	8	3	8	3
Cattle - -	20	17	3	13	7
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner
of Mafeteng, July 1, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report of medical work done in this district during the past year.

The number of persons treated in the Government dispensary was 4,640; of these 3,032 were adults, and 1,608 children and infants.

The total number of attendances, including repetitions, was 8,879. Seventy-two patients were admitted into hospital; of these five died. Syphilis still continues to be very prevalent. Five hundred and fifty persons, as against 521 last year, were under treatment for this disease. The large proportion of cases of digestive trouble was also remarkable.

Three hundred and fifty-nine minor and seven major operations were performed.

Though only 13 cases of leprosy have come under my notice, there appears to be some reason to suppose that this does not represent anything like all the cases in the district. A return is being made of all suspected cases. They will then be medical examined.

The health of the police, prisoners in the local gaol, and the community generally has been good.

No epidemic of infectious disease has visited the district.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.

(Signed) W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer.

MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

I.—Since my last annual Report the political attitude of the district has undergone but little change.

Owing to the ravages of the locust pest last year to the grain crop, a great scarcity of food was experienced in the district during the winter months, and starvation was averted by the importation of grain from Bechuanaland, prices for which rated very high on account of the great distance and high rate of carriage.

Few disturbances of importance have taken place during the past year.

On the 15th January last a fight took place between Tsepo Potsane and Liboua over disputed Maboella, in which two of Liboua's men were so badly wounded that they both died shortly after. The case was tried by the Resident Commissioner at Potsane's Village on the 13th February last, when Tsepo was fined thirty head of cattle.

I was sent with the native Chiefs Seeiso, Setha, Letsie and others to have the disputed line properly fixed before witnesses. This was done the same day.

A similar case is now under investigation that happened at Mako's recently.

In the early part of this year the district was again visited by locusts, but owing to the abundance of green grass, no material damage was done to the growing crops.

Much difficulty has been experienced in the collection of hut tax, and the usual amount not yet got in.

II.—Relations with the neighbouring States continue satisfactory.

A great desire on the part of the border farmers for fencing the line is evident, and there is no doubt that should this most desirable object be attained it will greatly benefit both States.

The illicit sale of liquor on the border still continues in spite of the efforts made for its suppression.

III.—An increase in the population is apparent. The mountain portion of the district is fast filling.

IV.—The crops throughout the district have been very good. Wheat, mealies, and Kaffir corn are abundant at reasonable prices. In the mountains the natives have had enormous crops of mealies and Kaffir corn.

V.—The school at Potsane's village has been reopened during the year and promises well.

All other schools were inspected.

VI.—I have heard of no complaints from traders.

A considerable amount of business was done in grain imported by the traders owing to the great scarcity last winter; this importation was a great boon to the district as at about that time we

were threatened with famine; which was averted by the abov means.

A large quantity of grain has been exported since the harvest this season; grain has been exceptionally plentiful.

General trading licences - - -	13
Hawkers' licences - - - -	4
Dam licences - - - -	2
Free licences - - - -	6

VII.—The free dispensary has been much appreciated and many important surgical cases successfully treated. For particulars *see* Medical Officer's Report.

VIII.—The following is an extract from the criminal records and speaks for itself:—

The Chiefs continue to assist in the suppression of crime.

Theft - - - - - -	6
Assault - - - - -	1
Contravening regulations - - -	7

IX.—Labour has been plentiful, and many passes issued for natives seeking employment:—

Seeking employment - - -	1,989
For the purpose of visiting, &c. -	1,984

X.—The roads are in good order; road parties have been kept at work repairing and improving when necessary.

XI.—*Revenue.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	2,796	0	0
Licences - - - -	207	12	9
Fees of Court - - -	2	10	6
Special receipts - - -	7	0	6
Total - -	3,013	3	9

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule Lost Stock Reports, Mohales Hoek District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - -	2	—	2	—	2
Cattle - -	16	4	12	—	16
Sheep - -	326	—	326	8	318

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mohales Hoek Medical Officer's Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

The appended return shows a considerable increase in the number of patients treated during the past year.

—	1891-2.	1892-3.
Out patients. New cases - -	2,858	4,500
„ Old cases - -	1,221	2,809
In-patients - - - -	50	76
Totals - - - -	4,129	7,385

An analysis of the diseases treated shows still a large percentage of syphilitic cases, especially those of a hereditary nature.

An epidemic of chicken-pox broke out during the early part of the year, but although a very large number of people were infected there were no deaths.

The in-patient department, which may be regarded as the most satisfactory part of the work performed by the medical officer, though showing an increased number of patients admitted compared with last year, was, however, much restricted, partly for lack of room and partly owing to the smallness of the grant available for the work in question.

The general health of the station has been satisfactory, and no cases of infectious disease have been noted.

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

The subject of leprosy has occupied considerable attention, but only two patients suffering from that disease have presented themselves for treatment.

(Signed) EDW. C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

DISTRICT OF QUTHING.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1893.

General.

On looking over the records of this office for the past year, the first event of importance appears to have been the establishment of a police station, in permanent charge of an officer, at Qatcha's Nek, on the water divide between this district and East Griqualand, about four hours on horseback from the township of Matatiele.

This was done to ensure effective supervision of the more remote portions of the district, and was an immediate consequence of certain unauthorised acts on the part of the Chief Mpiti Makwai which might have led to complications with the East Griqualand authorities. This arrangement is exercising a salutary check on stock thefts, and facilitates the collection of hut tax in that quarter.

II.—At the end of March last I returned to this district, after upwards of six years absence, during which time I was in charge of the district of Leribe.

Since my return sundry persons who were located by me in this district under orders from the Cape Colonial Government, during the years 1882–3, have brought complaints of having been deprived, by the Chief Nkwebe or his deputies, during the past six years, of various rights of pasturage, use of arable lands, &c., which they were put in possession of under the Cape Government. Several of these complaints have been referred to the Resident Commissioner, and others are in process of investigation.

A son of Letsie has been located on the Mission Station at Masitisi against the wishes of the missionary in charge and the local headman; and even on the Government reserve several villages have been placed, and lands given out for cultivation, by the Chief Nkwebe Letsie, to a number of persons from the Cornet Spruit district.

A protest has recently been lodged by the Tembu Chief, Stock Tyali, against the locating of a son of Letsie, called Tsoeni, in his ward without his consent. Several other inferior sons of Letsie have found their way into the district, where they are trying to obtain recognition as chiefs at the expense of the local headmen.

III.—Considerable friction exists between Nkwebe, who was the late Paramount Chief Letsie's representative in the district, and Nehemiah Moshesh, who was located here under the Colonial

Government about the end of the year 1882. Nehemiah complains that Nkwebe ignores his rights in connection with a certain wooded valley in his ward, and that he sends his men to cut down trees there without reference to him; and Nkwebe, on the other hand, asserts that the valley in question is used by Nehemiah as a hiding place for lost or stolen stock.

A recent dispute between these chiefs arose out of Nehemiah's son, Philip, constituting himself custodian of certain stray horses, which he said he had found.

Nkwebe sent an order to another son of Nehemiah's called Maseribane to seize these horses, which he suspected were stolen; and on Maseribane carrying out this order, Philip, after recapturing the horses, seized a number of Maseribane's cattle; and now Philip declines to attend Nkwebe's court when summoned, and Nehemiah refuses to send him.

These appear trivial matters on paper, but similar cases have before now lead to the Basuto taking up arms against one another, and the practice which prevails among the chiefs throughout the country of treating derelict stock as their perquisite, instead of handing it over to the proper authorities, is liable to abuse, and should be put a stop to.

IV.—The strained relations which recently existed between the Paramount Chief and his brother Maama, caused some excitement in this district, where the principal Chief, Nkwebe, who is supposed to favour Maama, was plainly told by some of the old-established headmen, that they would not follow him if he took up arms against the Paramount Chief, who was supported by the Government.

V.—Some doubt exists as to the exact locality of the border line between this district and the Cape Colony, at the source of the Telle River, near New England. The Baphuti Chief Moeletsi Tsekoa, whose ward is on the Upper Telle, and who was an important counsellor of Morosi, asserts that a certain kloof, known locally as Maqatsanyane, forms the line at this point; but this can doubtless be settled by reference to the surveyors who set up the border beacons.

Agriculture.

The crops of maize and Kaffir corn are exceptionally good this year, and a considerable quantity of wheat was raised last season. Locusts are present, but not in large numbers. Should they breed here they may give trouble next year.

Burrweed has spread enormously in the last few years, and will require strong measures if it is to be eradicated. Foot-and-mouth disease has not been very destructive to stock hitherto. If the cattle attacked are in good condition they seem to get it in a modified form; but as they fall off in condition in the winter, the losses will probably be greater. The increased area under cultivation consequent on the large influx of population from other parts of Basutoland naturally diminishes the pasturage, and affects the general condition of the stock.

Relations with Bordering States.

Official relations with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand have generally been of a satisfactory nature.

The working of the Quarantine Regulations to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth disease has caused some inconvenience to individuals, which was in most cases unavoidable.

Public Works.

The public buildings at this station are in bad order and require repair.

The waggon roads, from the mountainous nature of the district, require constant attention, being liable to be washed into gullies in a few hours after rain; and the ledges of rock which crop out everywhere render the making of smooth travelling roads almost impossible. The Basutoland Government has gone to great expense in constructing a waggon road up the valley of the Quthing river, in order to connect with the one commenced some years ago by the Cape Government, to cross the Drakensberg at the pass known as Ongeluk's Nek. In consequence of the stoppage of this work on the East Griqualand side of the mountains our portion of the road has not been carried beyond the foot of the pass on the Basutoland side; and for some time the expenditure on it has been simply to keep the existing portion in passable order.

Trade.

There are fourteen trading stations in the district, and licences have lately been asked for for two others. The transport question is the great drawback to trade, the trying nature of the roads tending to keep carriers away.

Education.

There are ten Government aided schools in this district.

Medical.

There is no resident medical officer in Quthing. A dispensary was started here, under the charge of the medical officer of Mohale's Hoek, but it was found impossible for him to attend satisfactorily to both districts, so his visits have ceased. It is very desirable that a doctor should be provided for Quthing, the nearest medical aid being some 35 miles distant.

Population.

The population of the district is about 20,000.

Passes.

The passes granted at this office during the past year were as under:—

Ordinary passes - - - -	3,556
For natives seeking work - - -	1,295

Police.

The police detachment at this station is in an efficient state, and the various duties are satisfactorily performed.

It may not be out of place here to remark that farmers, and others who send reports of stock lost to these stations, seldom take the trouble to send word if the stock is subsequently found, as occasionally happens, on their own farms. Consequently schedules of lost and stolen stock are apt to show a great preponderance of stock reported lost, over those recovered. It does not follow that stock so reported, always finds its way to this territory.

Police Cases.

The cases tried in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner during the past year are as follows:—

Murder	1
Theft	3
Contravention of trading regulations	1
„ Pass „	2
Escaping from custody	1
Forgery	1
Breach of reserve regulations	1
Destroying Public Works	1

Revenue.

The following collections were made during the year, as per schedule annexed:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax { Cash, 1,044*l.* 10*s.* / Grain, 601*l.* 0*s.* }	1,645 10 0
Licences	154 0 0
Judicial fines	5 12 0
Fees of office	3 7 3
Ferry tolls	187 19 3
Special receipts	2 16 0
	1,999 4 6

The report of the officer in charge at Qacha's Nek is attached.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, June 30, 1893.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Schedule of Lost Stock Reports, Quthing District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses - -	10	1	9	1	9
Cattle - -	20	—	20	—	20
Sheep - -	347	27	320	27	320

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Office of the Officer in Charge,
Qacha's Nek, June 30, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my report for the period 14th November 1892 to the 30th June 1893.

General.

Towards the end of October 1892 the Resident Commissioner decided to establish a permanent station here, and on the 14th of the following month I was placed in charge under command of the Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.

The establishment proves a great boon to the natives living in the mountains, and was much welcomed by the Resident Magistrate of Matatiele.

The chiefs living in the Orange River valley belonging to the Maseru District are allowed to pay their taxes here. This was done in consequence of the great distance they are from Maseru and in, comparatively speaking, easy range from this place.

There are numbers of Zulu families from Natal and Tembu from the Transkeian territories residing in the mountains. These latter people are notorious thieves, and, as tracing of stolen stock, &c. is difficult work in the mountains, it would in my opinion be advisable that they be located elsewhere in Basutoland, and away from the border. Any others desiring to come into the country not allowed.

Several herds of cattle were attacked by the foot-and-mouth disease, but with no fatal results in any instance. No cattle are allowed into East Griqualand from Basutoland, on account of the disease, and small detachments of Cape Mounted Rifles are stationed along the border to enforce the quarantine regulations.

Voetgangers were reported by the Chiefs Ledingoana and Letaba in their wards. They were, I am pleased to say, exterminated by the people before doing any damage to the young crops.

The season's crops of Kaffir corn and mealies are very fair. They are never really good, frosts falling so very early.

The wheat crop was good, and does well in these cold regions. The Chiefs Ledingoana, Rafalatsane, and their people depend almost entirely on wheat for subsistence.

In dealing with thefts and tracing of thieves and stolen stock the chiefs have rendered me every assistance.

There have been no differences between the chiefs under my direct supervision, and their relations appear to be friendly.

Commercial.

Trade is very fair. Wheat is fetching an average price, mealies and Kaffir corn next to nothing. Wool is from at 3*d.* and 2*d.* a lb.

There is one licensed trading station in the ward, and a second is in course of erection. Our markets are Matatiele and Kokstad.

Public Works.

There are no roads in the ward. It is proposed to construct a waggon road from Strachan's shop, which is on the border in Matatiele, to this station. This is necessary to admit of waggons coming in. The present mode of conveyance is by pack-animals and sledges.

Police.

The small detachment of police stationed here do their work satisfactorily.

Crime.

Serious crime is rare. Two cases of theft and one of culpable homicide have come to my notice. The thefts were committed before the permanent establishment of this station. No cases have occurred since.

Revenue.

A detailed return of Revenue collected during the period under report is attached.

Passes.

Ordinary passes - - - - -	1,115
Work „ - - - - -	122

Relations with Bordering States.

Relations with bordering States are satisfactory. The Resident Magistrate, Matatiele, has always afforded me every assistance when necessary in tracing and recovering thieves and stolen stock.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police,
Officer in Charge.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Qacha's Nek Sub-district, Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	187 10 0
Licences - - - - - - -	3 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	13 11 0
Fees - - - - - - -	0 2 6
	204 3 6

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Qacha's Nek Sub-district, Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.

Description	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses -	1	—	1	—	1
Cattle - -	7	4	3	4	3
Sheep - -	35	11	24	11	24

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Number of Licenses granted, Qacha's Nek Sub district Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.

Hawkers' licenses - - - - - 3

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Enclosure No. 2.

From His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town, to His Honour the ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 11, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 31st July reporting on the progress of Basutoland during the past year.

I consider the report shows satisfactory progress on most subjects, and I desire that my appreciation of the work performed by Sir Marshall Clarke, by yourself, and the officers of Basutoland be generally notified.

I request, however, that the attention of the chiefs and people be drawn to the continued prevalence of crimes of violence due to tribal quarrels, and desire that they be informed in my opinion a chief who takes up arms or allows his people to resort to violence instead of proceeding to the courts shows himself neglectful of the trust reposed in him as an officer of the Government. You will make my opinion on this point generally known at the annual pitso.

I desire also that attention may be called to the increased smuggling of liquor, and that the co-operation of all the chiefs and people be invited to assist in the suppression of an evil which, if not checked, will bring about the moral and physical destruction of the Basuto nation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

His Honour the Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

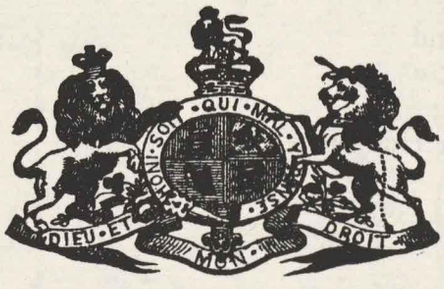
No. 100.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1892–3.

(For Reports for 1891–2 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 47.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1894.



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[C.—6857.–50.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
64	Sierra Leone	1891
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 100.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

[For Reports for 1891–2, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 47.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Cape Town,
October 19, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a despatch which I have received from the Administrator of British Bechuanaland, covering the annual reports of the Bechuanaland officers.

It is satisfactory to note that, although the trade of Bechuanaland has diminished, owing to the opening of the Johannesburg Railway and other incidents, nevertheless the settlement of the territory has been progressing.

I trust that with the increased settlement and the orderly development of the Protectorate, as well as with increased railway facilities, the trade may again revive, to the benefit of the inhabitants as well as the public revenue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissoner.

From the ADMINISTRATOR, Vryburg, to His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town.

Administrator's Office, British Bechuanaland,
Vryburg, August 15, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Excellency's information, the following reports on the progress and condition of

BRITISH BECHUANALAND. 1892–3.

British Bechuanaland, and of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, for the year ending on the 31st March 1893 :—

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I have to express my regret that there has been some delay in forwarding these reports owing to press of other work since my return in April last.

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* Not printed.

During my absence on leave Mr. F. J. Newton, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General, acted as Administrator and Chief Magistrate.

The public service has sustained severe loss in the deaths of the late Surveyor-General, Mr. A. Moorrees, and of the late Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Mafeking, Mr. A. G. Hatchard.

Mankoroane, Chief of the Batlapin, died at Taungs in November last and was succeeded by his eldest son, Molala.

The following is a summary of the contents of these reports :—

1. The Receiver-General furnishes comparative statements of the revenue of the Crown Colony, and of the expenditure in British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate, during the last four financial years.

The Customs returns are satisfactory ; those from hut tax, licenses, revenue stamps, transfer duty, auction duty and fines and fees, are normal. The sum of 9,182*l.* due for quit-rents is fully secured.

The receipts under Posts and Telegraphs, which were considerably over-estimated by the then Postmaster-General in November 1891, show a falling off, partly in consequence of the opening of direct railway communication between Cape Town and Johannesburg *viâ* Colesberg and Bloemfontein.

The increase in the Protectorate Revenue is satisfactory and will be augmented by the admission of the Protectorate into the South African Customs Union.

The total revenue exclusive of land sales is satisfactory, in view of the withdrawal of the contribution of 3,100*l.* formerly paid by the British South Africa Company towards the cost of Administration in the Protectorate. The decrease, if land sales be included, is due to the fact that practically no sales of land whatever were effected last year for reasons stated by the officer in charge of the Surveyor-General's Department.

The only items of expenditure calling for remark are the following :

(v.) *Legal.*

Including the maintenance of gaols and administration of justice, the expenditure has been considerably less than was estimated. Convict labour on public works has proved to be valuable and a means of making the amounts authorised for public works extraordinary go much further than they otherwise would.

(vii.) *District Administration.*

A considerable saving has been effected.

(viii.) *Posts and Telegraphs.*

A saving has been effected both on the estimates and on the actual expenditure of the previous year. This Department has been placed under the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony.

(ix.) *Police.*

A saving has been effected in the cost of providing for forage and grain and also remounts. Disbursements on account of deferred pay have been large.

(x.) *Education.*

On the report of Mr. Ely, an Inspector of Schools in the Cape Colony, an increased grant on the £ for £ principle has been sanctioned.

(xiii.) *Surveyor-General.*

In consequence of the death of the late Surveyor-General in February last, it was found impossible to make various payments for which provision had been made.

(xiv.) *Public Works Extraordinary.*

The sum of 11,000*l.* was sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government for last year, and 3,000*l.* for the purchase and maintenance of two boring machines. A Foreman of Works was temporarily appointed, but the amount expended on Public Works extraordinary was only 6,512*l.*, and the sum of 1,600*l.* was expended on the purchase and maintenance of two diamond drill boring machines.

General Remarks.

The chief export trade has been in wood for fuel at the diamond mines of Griqualand West, and is now falling off as railway development is bringing coal to Kimberley.

2. The Crown Prosecutor gives a list of legislative Proclamations during the year ending 31st March last in the Crown Colony, Protectorate, and adjacent territories.

There has been a marked diminution of crime, save that stock thefts have been frequently committed by Cape Colonial Kaffirs squatting on farms owned by Europeans. The law prohibiting the supply of liquor to natives has been rigidly enforced.

3. The Surveyor-General's department, through Mr. Windley, reports that the trigonometrical survey of the territory was extended through part of Gordonia by Mr. Bosman, with excellent results, for a length of about 135 miles and an average breadth of 11 miles, or an area of about 1,500 square miles.

Private properties throughout the district of Vryburg, and part of that of Mafeking, have been surveyed and connected with the trigonometrical base.

Four surveyors have been employed in Gordonia on private properties, Government farms, and blocks of vacant Crown land. The village of Keimoes has been laid out and the commonage of Upington has been surveyed.

The boundary line fixed by a Commission between the Chief Montsioa and Batwen has not yet been demarcated. The boundary between the Protectorate and the South African Republic has been beaconed from Ramathlabama to Matlase, a distance of 13 miles.

The admission of land surveyors to practise in British Bechuanaland has been regulated by a legislative Proclamation. Four farms hypothecated to Her Majesty's Government have been sold and two granted for public purposes at Vryburg and Mafeking respectively. There has been a considerable demand for land, but no sales have been effected owing to the prohibitive price asked by Government. This has been to some extent remedied by the reduction of the price from 3*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per morgen with easier terms of payment. A considerable number of diagrams have been prepared and examined.

4. The Registrar of Deeds reports a smaller number of mortgage bonds registered and a large increase in the number of bonds cancelled this year, and an increase of about 310*l.* over last year's revenue.

5. The Postmaster-General reports a slight falling off in the postal revenue during the past year, viz., about 350*l.* less than the previous year.

The net cost of the conveyance of mails from Mafeking to Macloutsie is 4,000*l.* From the 1st April 1893 the management of the postal and telegraph system has been handed over to the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony.

6. The Collector of Customs reports that there has been a decrease of 8,000*l.* in the value of imports for consumption last year as compared with the preceding year, and that there would have been a much more serious decline but for the steady influx of farmers into the Vryburg district. The decrease is attributed to loss of the carrying trade to Johannesburg, loss of three-fourths of the trade to Mashonaland, and of one-sixth of the trade with the Protectorate.

The decrease in the native trade in the Protectorate is attributed to restrictions recently placed on the sale of arms and ammunition to natives and consequent loss of two-thirds of the trade in wild ostrich feathers.

A large proportion of the goods consumed in Mashonaland is now drawn from the South African Republic in consequence of the specially favourable railway rates charged last year upon goods consigned to the Transvaal. There is a shrinkage in the trade between Bechuanaland and the South African Republic, and the marked decrease under the head of skins, hides, horns and ivory indicates that there has been less hunting by natives in the Protectorate last year than formerly. The item "grain and cereals" shows a satisfactory increase. Last quarter the average of wood exported from Bechuanaland to the diamond fields as fuel rose to 1,850 tons per month.

The gross cash receipts amount to 14,697*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, as compared with 13,225*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* during the preceding year.

With regard to the effect of increased farming population upon Customs Revenue the Collector estimates the average contribution of each white person per annum to the Customs Revenue to be 1*l.* 15*s.*, which would yield 6,125*l.* from a white rural population

estimated at 3,500 persons; and the Customs Revenue from occupied farms may be reckoned at 6,500*l.* per annum, or an average contribution of 15*l.* 5*s.* per annum from each occupied farm.

The Customs Revenue, in respect of goods purchased for farms which have been occupied five or six years, may be taken to average 23*l.* 5*s.*, or 8*l.* more than the probable average at present.

The Mafeking merchants continue to avail themselves freely of the advantages of the bonding system.

7. The Inspector of Native Reserves, in his capacity as collector of hut tax, reports the amount of his collections to the end of August 1892, being balance of money due for the year ending 31st March 1891, to have been 1,718*l.* Collections for the financial year 1891–92 resulted in the amount of 1,642*l.* 10*s.* The falling-off in the amount collected in the Kuruman district is due to restrictions imposed on the natives in consequence of the prevalence of the foot-and-mouth disease among cattle. The collections near Mafeking were also below the average.

The deficit will, the collector doubts not, be made up in the next few months. The crops will be a failure this season owing to scarcity of water and the ravages of locusts.

Malarial fever has prevailed in the valleys of the Molopo, Mashowing, Matlaring, and Kuruman rivers.

8. The Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court reports a diminution in the work of his office during the past year, partly in consequence of the establishment of a Master's Office in Mashonaland. A table* showing balances in hand, receipts and payments, from April 1886 to 31st March 1893, is given, as also a table showing the amount invested by the Master and the annual interest derived therefrom from 1891 to 1893.

9. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Vryburg reports that the rural population of the division has doubled within the last two years, and that in spite of diversion of trade through the opening of the railway between Cape Town and Johannesburg, *viâ* Colesberg and Bloemfontein, there has been no falling off in any of the important items of revenue in Vryburg. The valuation of property in the division may be taken to be, roughly speaking, 400,000*l.* There has been a large increase in the farming population during the last financial year. Wood-cutting has increased, though the price obtained is small. Cattle have done well. The number of sheep and goats, and the export of wool and mohair, has considerably increased. Horse-sickness has been less severe than usual. Agriculture has suffered in consequence of lateness of rain and swarms of locusts. The locusts hatched out in this district were destroyed by small flies which laid eggs in their bodies. These eggs became maggots which killed the locusts. Large swarms of locusts were thus destroyed but fresh swarms have since appeared.

* Not printed.

A few diamonds have been discovered near Vryburg and prospectors are now at work.

There is hardly any crime among the farming population and very little amongst the natives of the district. The value of the labour performed by convicts may be taken to be equal to the cost of their maintenance. Convicts are encouraged to learn trades.

The rainfall has been 21·93 inches, rather below the average.

10. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Mafeking reports the outbreak and disappearance of the foot-and-mouth disease. Stock stealing had increased and the Chief Montsioa had rendered assistance in arresting the thieves, and bringing them to justice. The boundary dispute between Montsioa and Batwen in the Protectorate has been settled by a Commission. Montsioa has done his best to aid in checking the illicit sale of brandy to his people. Ravages of locusts have destroyed many crops. The additions to the gaol have been completed. Farmers have made steady progress.

11. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate, Taungs, reports a year of unusual prosperity for the natives who sold their grain for cash. By the 31st December 1892, 43,400 bags of grain had been purchased from natives in the Taungs Reserve by store-keepers, who had about 1,000 bags of grain in hand. A good trade was also done in poultry and eggs supplied by the natives for the Kimberley market. Foot-and-mouth disease broke out among cattle and disappeared as soon as fresh grass sprang up after the rains. Molala, who has succeeded his father as Chief, is working satisfactorily. High quit-rents keep farms unoccupied. There has been no serious crime in the district.

12. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Kuruman, reports that the agricultural prospects of the district are good, that the natives are quiet and contented, that the roads are in a very bad condition through the late heavy rains, that the public offices, being built of raw brick, require constant repair, and that large swarms of locusts have appeared between Kuruman and the Langberg. There is no European School in the district. The police have rendered good service and crime is hardly known.

13. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Gordonia reports that the year just closed compares in many respects unfavourably with the preceding year, and that the revenue of the district had suffered very considerably from the closing of the roads to the Cape Colony and Transvaal markets in consequence of the spread of the foot-and-mouth disease. Gordonia is now free from contagious disease among cattle. Swarms of locusts from the Kalahari and Great Namaqualand have destroyed the pasturage.

There is no alarming increase in crime but there is much illicit dealing in liquor. There has been no disturbance on the border.

14, 15, 16, 17. The reports of the District Surgeons of Vryburg, Mafeking, Kuruman, and Gordonia are, generally

speaking, favourable; but the prevalence of syphilitic disease among natives is noted in the districts of Vryburg, Kuruman, and Upington.

There was an epidemic of what is commonly called Russian Influenza in the district of Mafeking in June 1892, and there were 17 cases of malarial fever in the district of Kuruman.

There was a very serious outbreak of intermittent fever in the first half of 1892, especially in the valley of the Matlaring and Mashowing rivers. In the district of Upington an outbreak of measles is recorded. The sanitary condition of all the gaols is reported to be good.

18. The Assistant Commissioner at Gaberones reports the settlement of the boundary dispute between the Chiefs Montsioa and Batwen, the secession of Pula with his people from the Chief Ikaneng of Ramoutsa, the visit of the Chiefs Batwen and Sebele to the High Commissioner at Cape Town, the good conduct of the Bakhatla Chief Lenchwe of Mochudi, the death of the old Bakwena Chief Sechele at Molepolole, and of Losinye, Chief of the Bakaa—the latter event being followed by a dispute between two of Mosineye's sons and a split in the tribe; the results so far of a measure for imposing a tax on ammunition supplied to natives, and of attempts to find water with a diamond drill, the backwardness of the native crops, two cases of murder, and the collection of 1,013*l.* 1*s.* as revenue.

19. The Acting Resident Magistrate, Macloutsie, reports an increase of licenses, from 20*l.* to 80*l.*, the trial of seven criminal cases during the year, a very slight rainfall, foot-and-mouth disease among cattle, and horse-sickness.

20. The Colonel commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police reports as follows:—

1. Strength, 1st April 1892.—Five troops: 26 officers, 436 non-commissioned officers and men distributed as follows:—

Crown Colony: 5 officers, 123 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

Southern Protectorate: 4 officers, 86 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

Northern: Protectorate 17 officers, 253 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

Strength, 1st April 1893.—25 officers, 370 non-commissioned officers and troopers, distributed thus:—

Crown Colony: 5 officers, 114 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

Southern Protectorate: 4 officers, 73 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

Northern Protectorate: 16 officers, 183 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

2. The list of appointments, promotions, resignations, and discharges calls for no special remark. Five desertions and three deaths are recorded.

The Native Strength consists of 89 drivers and leaders distributed thus :—

British Bechuanaland - - - -	11
Southern Protectorate - - - -	6
Northern Protectorate - - - -	72

7. Transport consists of 18 wagons, 7 Scotch carts, 3 spring carts, 12 water carts, 34 mules, 319 oxen.

8. The horses are distributed as follows :—

British Bechuanaland - - - -	107
Southern Protectorate - - - -	27
Northern Protectorate - - - -	94

9. The armament includes :—

4 7-pounders of 200 lbs. - - -	at Macloutsie.
2 Maxim guns - - - -	
1 Gatling gun (on loan from the Tati Company) - - - -	
1 7-pounder (naval pattern) - -	at Gaberones
1 Maxim gun. - - - -	
2 Nordenfeldt guns - - -	

The report furnishes details with regard to special employment, regimental works, moves, outstations, patrols, health, arrests and convictions.

The results generally of the past year are reported to be satisfactory and the efficiency of the corps to have increased.

21. The report of the Ordnance and Commissariat Officer is satisfactory and calls for no special remark.

22. The senior Medical Officer at Macloutsie reports a great increase of fever cases among men employed in the neighbourhood of the Shashi River; the cases of dysentery were slightly fewer than those of last year.

The total number of cases treated was 774, of which 261 were fever, 25 dysentery, and 477 various ailments. Only one death had occurred.

23. The Medical Officer at Gaberones reports one death from acute dysentery at Molepolole ; that on the whole the men at Gaberones were in good health, and the camp in an excellent sanitary condition, but that the huts and the hospital needed repair or rebuilding.

24. The District Surgeon of Mafeking, who acts as Medical Officer of the Police at that place, reports 233 cases of illness among the men of "A" Troop in the town and district of Mafeking, of which 30 cases were treated in hospital. No deaths had occurred.

It will be seen that notwithstanding such drawbacks as locusts, disease, and bad seasons, these reports, taken as a whole, indicate

steady and satisfactory progress and a general condition of peace and order.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SIDNEY SHIPPARD,
Administrator.

His Excellency the Governor
and High Commissioner, Cape Town.

REPORT of the RECEIVER-GENERAL for 1892-3.

Vryburg, May 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report of this Department for the year ending the 31st March last.

The following are comparative statements of the revenue in British Bechuanaland, and the expenditure in British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate, during the last four financial years:—

*Revenue.**

	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	£	£	£	£
Customs Revenue	—	2,448	12,579	13,326
Hut tax	2,246	3,410	1,975	3,450
Licenses	2,361	2,917	3,252	3,228
Revenue stamps	1,534	2,154	2,743	2,514
Transfer duty	2,497	2,730	2,996	2,993
Auction duty	69	190	223	197
Fines and fees	292	772	563	654
Survey receipts	1,291	1,507	538	2,820
Post Office { Colony	1,366	2,204	3,096	2,535
Post Office { Protectorate	635	1,412	3,017	2,202
Telegraphs	1,431	2,543	2,605	2,492
Quit-rents	3,287	4,330	3,758	3,871
Other rents	—	195	474	410
Sales of Government property	166	606	2,440	465
Sundries	134	215	340	125
Sundry receipts in aid	1,140	1,123	1,724	2,125
Contribution from British South Africa Company	—	2,475	3,100	406
Protectorate revenue	—	—	452	1,344
Total, excluding land sales	18,449	31,233	45,876	45,155
Land sales	1,099	11,270	5,061	187
Total £	19,548	42,503	50,937	45,342

* These figures have been revised in the Colonial Office from the annual accounts.

*Expenditure.**

—	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.
	£	£	£	£
Pensions	963	1,250	950	887
Administrator's Department	2,709	3,374	3,016	3,274
Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General's Department	1,424	2,350	2,174	2,302
Store Department	578	516	—	—
Native affairs	515	871	898	1,410
Legal Department	1,331	3,092	4,141	3,882
District Administration	5,313	5,936	6,809	7,180
Posts and Telegraphs	7,121	9,661	15,621	14,846
Customs	—	—	1,122	1,167
Police	66,639	106,229	95,391	94,234
Education	—	248	307	568
Transport	1,309	774	533	914
Miscellaneous	2,281	2,240	4,298	3,788
Colonial Surveyor's Department	3,879	11,014	8,332	6,920
Hospital	—	—	—	1,210
Public works recurrent	3,528	939	919	892
„ „ extraordinary		1,779	5,929	8,153
Assistant Commissioner with Lo Bengula	815	2,408	2,085	851
„ „ in Protectorate	—	1,160	1,642	1,536
High Commissioner's travelling expenses	—	4,551	57	—
Rowe, compensation	—	—	24	—
Arbitration account and H. G. Brown's contract	—	—	681	—
Gratuity to Trooper Sharp, B.B. Police	—	—	—	73
Total £	98,405	158,393	154,929	154,089

REVENUE.

Customs.

The return under this head, although showing only a small increase on the amount received from the previous year, is satisfactory, considering the adverse circumstances pointed out in the report of the Collector of Customs, which deals very fully with this, the most important, head of our Revenue.

The items, hut-tax, licenses, revenue stamps, transfer duty, auction duty, and fines and fees are normal. The receipts under quit-rents, come to about the same as the last year, but amongst the assets of the Territory there is a sum of 9,182*l.* due from quit-rents on the 31st March last, which sum forms a first

* See note on previous page.

charge upon the farms respectively involved. The difficulty in the collections of quit-rents has long been the subject of correspondence; but as the amount, though uncollected, is fully secured, and in view of the fact that farmers have not been very successful in the past year, either with crops or cattle, owing to locusts and restrictions imposed on the sale of cattle in the Cape Colony on account of the foot-and-mouth disease epidemic, I have not thought it advisable to recommend any very summary proceedings of the kind denoted in my report of last year.

The receipts under the head of Posts and Telegraphs cannot, I fear, be considered satisfactory. The probable Revenue was considerably over-estimated by the then Postmaster-General, in November of 1891. Mr. Middleton had evidently realised this in writing his annual report of last year.

A most important item, viz., Protectorate Revenue, shows an increase which will no doubt be more than sustained during the present year.

The total revenue exclusive of land sales is, I consider, satisfactory, in view of the fact that the contribution of the British South Africa Company of 3,100*l.*, towards expenses of administration in the Protectorate, was last year withdrawn.

The total revenue, including land sales, shows a decrease, owing to the fact that practically no sales of land whatever were effected last year.

The reasons for this course are set forth in the report of the officer in charge of the Surveyor-General's Department.

EXPENDITURE.

In remarking on the expenditure of the year, according to the items as numbered on the estimates, it is unnecessary for me to offer any observations on the following: Pensions, Administrator, Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General, Native Affairs, Customs, Transport, Miscellaneous, Public Works Recurrent, and Assistant Commissioner, Palapye, and Assistant Commissioner, Lower Protectorate, in each of which Departments the disbursements have been normal, or, in the case of the new items, according to estimate.

Legal.

The expenditure under this head has been considerably less than estimated. Besides the salary of the Crown Prosecutor it includes all disbursements in respect of the maintenance of gaols, and of the administration of justice generally throughout the territory and Protectorate. The additional charges incurred in the Protectorate must soon form a serious burden on this vote, and, when gaols and lock-ups and courthouses are erected, will necessitate a substantial increase. At present the amount asked for has proved sufficient to meet the Protectorate expenses, which, amongst other items last year, contained a bill of 68*l.* for the execution of a native at Gaberones.

It should also be noted here that the convict labour, especially that available at the central gaol at Vryburg, is valuable, and helps

to make the amounts authorised under Public Works Extraordinary go much further than they would otherwise. Convicts have been employed during the past year in road making, tree-planting, quarrying building stone, building stone walls, brickmaking and bricklaying, and plain carpentering and painting. A workshop is now being erected for their use adjoining the gaol.

District Administration.

A considerable saving has been effected this year owing to the generally economical dispositions of the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates, and also by its not having been considered necessary to establish a seat of magistracy in the newly annexed district of Mier.

Posts and Telegraphs.

It is satisfactory to be able to record that the Acting Postmaster General, Mr. Tillard, who was intrusted with the care of this Department on the retirement of the Postmaster-General in May, has effected a saving both on the estimate and on the actual expenditure of the previous year. But it is evident that the strictest economy is necessary in the administration of a Postal department that spends 15,000*l.* and only receives 7,500*l.* This responsibility was, on the 31st March last, handed over by this Government to the Postmaster-General of the Cape, whose experience and ability should go far to reduce the expenditure and increase the revenue. He will be aided in his task by this Government having secured for the current year a more advantageous contract for the expensive mail coach service to Macloutsie, and by the extension of the railway to Mafeking.

Police.

The expenditure under this head calls for no very special remark. The arrangements made for the supply of forage and grain to horses and mules, and for the purchase of remounts, have resulted in a saving of the amounts voted for these purposes in the estimates.

A considerable sum became due during the year for deferred pay, on account of the termination of many of the new engagements and the determination of the Government to make a slight reduction in the strength of the force.

Education.

During the year Mr. Ely, a senior Inspector of Schools in the Cape Colony, made a tour throughout the Territory. The recommendations embodied in his report have been approved, and an increased grant for this good cause has been voted, such grants being based strictly on the £ for £ principle in the case of the

maintenance of largeschools in town. A sufficiently liberal grant has also been sanctioned by Government for the benefit of certain approved country schools.

Surveyor-General.

Owing to the lamented death of the late Surveyor-General, Mr. Moorrees, in February last, it was found impossible to make various payments for which provisions had been made towards the close of the financial year.

Public Works Extraordinary

A very liberal provision under this vote was sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government for the past year, namely 11,000*l.* for works and 3,000*l.* for the purchase and maintenance of two boring machines.

In view of the appointment of an Engineer officer to superintend Public Works in this Territory having been announced, I did not feel justified in recommending, in your Honour's absence, the commencement of any works that were not absolutely necessary or that could be more satisfactorily completed under professional superintendence. A foreman of works was, however, temporarily appointed during the year, and at a cost of 6,512*l.* the following works have been carried out or nearly completed :—

1. Addition to Administrator's House, Vryburg, begun.
2. New Court House, Vryburg, begun and completed.
3. Vryburg Hospital, completed, fitted, and furnished.
4. Tree planting.
5. Gaol at Mafeking, extended to hold 40 prisoners.

5A. Additions to house of Civil Commissioner, Mafeking.

6. New Gaol and Offices, Upington, begun and completed.
7. Various buildings erected at the Police Camp at Macloutsie to the value of 1,000*l.*
8. Officers' quarters, barrack accommodation, stabling and forage stores at Gaberones, Mafeking, Vryburg, Taungs, and Kuruman.
9. Temporary hut, office, and well at Palapye.
10. Lock-up, lightning conductors, and well at Gaberones.
11. Brick sheds and carpenter's shop, foot-bridge, &c. at Vryburg and Mafeking.
12. Alterations and additions to Post Offices at Vryburg and Mafeking, and numerous other small items.

As I have stated above, much of the labour under this vote, and the vote for Public Works Recurrent at the various seats of magistracy, has been supplied by convicts.

Boring Machines.

It is hoped that the experience gained in laying out 1,60*l*, in the purchase and maintenance of two boring machines (diamond drills) has not been dearly bought.

No distinct success has been gained in the actual finding of water, but a clearer idea has been obtained of the nature of the ground, and of the kind of machine required.

The machines will in the future be under the charge of Major Panzera, Engineer Officer of the Bechuanaland Border Police.

In reporting to your Honour on the general condition of the territory during the past year, I must confess to some feeling of disappointment that greater progress has not been made, that the revenue does not visibly show a distinct increase, and that signs of affluence and prosperity are not more conspicuous.

The chief trade of the country has been an export trade in wood, green and dead. This is no permanent industry, but represents merely a scramble between transport riders, land speculators, and storekeepers to secure a share of the money which the Diamond Mining Companies of Kimberley have been in a position to spend on wood for fuel.

It has been alleged, with no very great truth, that much of this wood has been stolen from Crown land, native reserves, and the railway reserves. I do not think this has been the case to any serious extent and stringent precautions have been taken during the past year to prevent the stealing of wood, and the cutting down of wood by natives on their reserves for purposes of sale. The green wood has for the most part been cut by contractors on private property purchased for that object, and, in spite of protests from all sides, it cannot be considered advisable to prevent a man from doing as he pleases with his own.

The exportation is as difficult to check as the cutting down of the wood; as to do so would have been considered an infraction of the Customs Union, of which this Territory is a member, and under which it obtained one-third of its revenue.

The trade in wood more especially in green wood, has, within the last few months, greatly decreased.

The bonâ fide farmers, of whom there are far too few in this country, are for the most part, and in spite of the misfortunes to which I have already drawn attention, viz., locusts and restrictions on trade owing to the foot-and-mouth disease, doing fairly well, though the grain crops were below the average of previous years. What the country requires is a reinforcement of real farmers, owning something more than a wagon, a span of oxen, and a tent. There are many such willing to come into the country, but there has been an absolute difficulty in the way of their obtaining tolerable land at a fair price. The unoccupied part of the country is, so to speak, in a state of suspense. Besides the two or three enormous blocks originally acquired by companies or syndicates, for purposes of speculation, there are the blocks set apart for railway grants and a certain amount of unoccupied Crown land awaiting occupation and development. There are, besides, many allotted farms unoccupied and unsaleable owing to the heavy quit-rent and arrears of quit-rent with which they are burdened. I need only

refer your Honour to the report of the Collector of Customs as to the importance of procuring occupation of some portion of all these lands. Until they can be placed in a marketable condition the genuine would-be occupant must content himself with a hard bargain with some small owner or speculator, or take his money elsewhere.

The border relations with the South African Republic during the past year have been of a satisfactory nature. The Christiana Police have always been ready to co-operate with the Bechuanaland Border Police in the district of Taungs in dealing with all cases that have arisen on or near the border, and Mr. van Niekerk, the Border Commissioner, has cordially assisted me on two occasions in particular in which special inquiry and action seemed desirable. In the first case the Chief Galishwe of Phokwane had not, until pressure was put upon him, done all he could to procure the arrest and punishment of certain natives who were alleged to have unlawfully released cattle in the custody of some farmers. Galishwe eventually sent in three natives for trial, but the evidence procurable was insufficient to secure a conviction. In the other case Mr. van Niekerk and I met at Maribogo by appointment to inquire into the conduct of a South African Republican farmer, who was alleged to have dealt unfairly and to have illtreated on various occasions some of Phoe's people. The farmer was cautioned, Phoe and his people were advised to have no dealings with him, and a detachment of Border Police has been now stationed at Maribogo to prevent further difficulties arising.

The death of Mr. Hatchard, late Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Mafeking, in July last, was a great loss to the Government and to the district in his charge. Mr. Hatchard was much liked and respected, both by his fellow officials and by the inhabitants of Mafeking.

A further severe loss was sustained in the death of Mr. A. Moorrees, late Surveyor-General, at Vryburg, on the 1st February. Mr. Moorrees, on succeeding Mr. Duncan, had taken infinite pains to become thoroughly acquainted with all the land questions of the territory, and his death was no doubt accelerated by overwork. During his brief stay at Vryburg he had endeared himself to every section of the community, by whom, and by the Government which he so faithfully served, his loss will be severely felt.

The death of Mankoroane, the Chief of the Batlapin tribe, in November last was an event rather of historical interest than of practical importance. Molala, his successor, is well spoken of by Major Lowe and the continuance of a small pension to him by Her Majesty's Government is much appreciated.

During the spring an International and South African Exhibition was held at Kimberley, at which this territory and the Protectorate, through the generous response made by the Government, the public bodies of Vryburg and Mafeking, and private individuals, were not

unworthily represented. The exhibits of karosses, sent by the Chief Khama, and the specimens of agricultural produce sent by the inhabitants of the little-known district of Gordonia, were especially admired.

The various Blue Book forms, for furnishing statistical information of the condition and progress of the Territory, supply valuable information which has hitherto only been partially and incidentally rendered in the text of the reports of the chief officials.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. J. NEWTON,
Receiver-General.

His Honour the Commissioner,
Vryburg.

REPORT OF THE CROWN PROSECUTOR.

The following legislative enactments were put in force in the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland during the year ended March 31st last, viz.:—

Proclamation No. 143, British Bechuanaland, repealing section 23 of Proclamation 93, British Bechuanaland, 1890 [Customs], and making other provision in lieu thereof.

Proclamation No. 144, British Bechuanaland, facilitating the recovery of rates due and payable to village boards of management.

Proclamation No. 145, British Bechuanaland, declaring "Wild Duck," "Wild Geese," and "Snipe" to be game in the districts of Vryburg, Mafeking, Taungs, and Kuruman, and repealing Proclamations 21, British Bechuanaland, 1886, 35, British Bechuanaland, 1887, and 91, British Bechuanaland, 1890, and fixing a close season for various kinds of game in such districts.

Proclamation No. 146, British Bechuanaland, repealing certain railway bye-laws and defining the meaning of the term "Railway Department" in any law, notice, or bye-law.

Proclamation No. 147, British Bechuanaland, preventing impounding of certain animals trespassing upon certain lands in the district of Kuruman, and disallowing trespass money for such trespass.

Proclamation No. 148, British Bechuanaland, facilitating recovery of rates due and payable to Divisional Councils.

Proclamation No. 149, British Bechuanaland, declaring that the Orange Free State has made due provision for the compulsory attendance as witnesses before courts in the Territory of persons resident in that State.

Proclamation No. 150, British Bechuanaland, declaring that deferred pay due to members of the Bechuanaland Border Police shall not be executable for debt, and more clearly defining

jurisdiction of civil courts and of boards of officers in the said force in certain cases.

Proclamation No. 151, British Bechuanaland, authorising the issue to the Government of the Cape Colony of a grant or grants of certain lands not containing a reservation to the Crown of precious stones and minerals.

Proclamation No. 152, British Bechuanaland, making provision for the determination of the proper width of certain roads in certain divisions.

Proclamation No. 153, British Bechuanaland, fixing the amount payable by the Standard Bank of South Africa in respect of Bank Note Duty, and amending Act No. 6 of 1864 [for imposing a duty upon bank notes].

Proclamation No. 154, British Bechuanaland, increasing the number of members of the board of management for the township of Mafeking.

Proclamation No. 155, British Bechuanaland, declaring a certain area in the district of Gordonia to be infected with lung-sickness.

Proclamation No. 156, British Bechuanaland, amending and extending the meaning of the term "tree" in the "Forest and Herbage Preservation Act, 1859."

Proclamation No. 157, British Bechuanaland, providing for the prevention of the spread of foot-and-mouth disease or of other infectious or contagious diseases or disorder among domestic animals.

Proclamation No. 158, British Bechuanaland, providing for the repression and extermination of leprosy.

Proclamation No. 159, British Bechuanaland, regulating the Deeds Registry Office and amending the law relating to the Registrar of Deeds.

Proclamation No. 160, British Bechuanaland, providing for the sale of food and drugs in a pure state and preventing the adulteration of seeds.

Proclamation No. 161, British Bechuanaland, repealing the Extradition Act, 1882, and providing for the extradition to the Orange Free State of persons accused or convicted of the commission of certain crimes within that State.

Proclamation No. 162, British Bechuanaland, making further provision for preventing the spread of foot-and-mouth disease into the district of Gordonia.

Proclamation No. 163, British Bechuanaland, providing for the punishment of persons convicted of contravening section 14 of Proclamation No. 62, British Bechuanaland, 1889 [Conservation of Forests in Native Reserves].

Proclamation No. 164, British Bechuanaland, declaring "Eau-de-Cologne" to be spirituous liquor for the purposes

of Proclamations Nos. 64, British Bechuanaland, 1889, and 113, British Bechuanaland, 1891.

Proclamation No. 165, British Bechuanaland, amending Act No. 11, of 1871 [Hawking for Sale articles of Colonial Produce].

Proclamation No. 167, British Bechuanaland, providing for the registration by the Colonial Secretary, upon payment of certain fees, of marriages celebrated in the Bechuanaland Protectorate and territories adjacent thereto.

Proclamation No. 168, British Bechuanaland, regulating the admission of land surveyors.

Proclamation No. 169, British Bechuanaland, establishing a Concession Court and proclaiming its powers and jurisdiction.

Proclamation No. 170, British Bechuanaland, proclaiming certain prison regulations to be in force.

Proclamation No. 171, British Bechuanaland, making provision for the appropriation of fines and penalties incurred under Parts 1 and 2 of the Police Offences Act within certain townships.

Proclamation No. 172, British Bechuanaland, removing doubts as to the existence of a set of Standard Weights and Measures.

Proclamation No. 173, British Bechuanaland, declaring "Wild Duck," "Wild Geese," and "Snipe" to be game in the district of Gordonia, repealing Proclamation No. 77, British Bechuanaland, 1890, and making other provision in lieu thereof.

In the Bechuanaland Protectorate and the territories adjacent thereto, the undermentioned laws were put in force, viz.:—

Proclamation of April 4th, 1892, amending in certain respects the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors.

Proclamation of April 8th, 1892, regulating the admission and enrolment of advocates, attorneys-at-law, and conveyancers.

Proclamation of August 16th, 1892, providing for the prevention of the spread of foot-and-mouth disease or of any other infectious or contagious disease among domestic animals.

Proclamation of September 23rd, 1892, making additional regulations for the importation, and removal from place to place, of intoxicating liquor.

Proclamation of September 27th, 1892, altering the titles and more clearly defining the jurisdiction of certain judicial officers and the local limits for the operation of laws now or hereafter to be in force.

Proclamation of October 4th, 1892, regulating the granting of permits for the purchase or receipt by natives of ammunition, and providing for the payment of certain fees for the granting of such permits.

Proclamation of December 2nd, 1892, providing for the registration of marriages in the office of the Colonial Secretary of British Bechuanaland and for the payment of certain fees for such registration.

Proclamation of December 12th, 1892, imposing a license on certain persons using or carrying guns.

Proclamation of December 22nd, 1892, including "Eau-de-Cologne" within the meaning of intoxicating liquor for the purpose of the law relating to the supply of liquor to natives.

Proclamation of December 31st, 1892, amending Proclamation of October 4th, 1892 [Supply of Ammunition to Natives].

Proclamation of January 10th, 1893, appointing a Commission to inquire into and report upon certain alleged land grants and mineral and other concessions.

With regard to crime in the Crown Colony, I am pleased to be able to state that the period covered by this report compares most favourably with that embraced by my last report, the majority of cases having been petty offences, such as assaults, contraventions of the Masters and Servants Acts, and minor cases of theft. Stock thefts have not been of frequent occurrence, and those brought to the notice of the authorities have for the most part been committed by colonial Kaffirs squatting on farms owned by Europeans.

I do not propose in this report to give a detailed statement of the offences committed in the various districts of the Territory of British Bechuanaland, for, no doubt, this subject has been treated by the different magistrates in their reports for the year, and full information thereon will be gathered from criminal statistics which I intend shortly to furnish to his Honour the Administrator, in accordance with instructions received. Although numerous convictions for contravention of the law prohibiting the supply of liquor to natives have been obtained, the law has apparently been observed by the licensed victuallers, for the offenders have almost in every instance been degraded Europeans, half-castes, and Indians.

I regret to state that the wholesale impounding of cattle of natives residing in the Taungs Native Reserve by the owners and occupiers of adjoining farms in the Dry Hartz Valley, for alleged trespass, has considerably agitated the natives, who aver that in several instances these cattle have been taken from off the Reserve and illegally impounded. In my opinion the surest mode of removing this source of discontent and irritation would be the erection of a dividing fence at the joint expense of the natives and the owners of the adjoining farms. I foresee no difficulty in carrying out this proposal for I have been given to understand that the farmers concerned are willing to contribute a proportionate share of the expense, and as regards that due by the natives, I would suggest that it be paid in the first instance by Government, and be recovered from the natives by means of a special tax. The exporta-

tion of timber from the Crown Colony, for the purpose of supplying the natives at Kimberley with fuel, has increased to an alarming extent and has been the subject of much comment in the local and other South African papers. Legislation prohibiting such exportation would be contrary to the terms of the Customs Union, of which this Colony is a member. As this is a matter of vital importance I would respectfully suggest that the other members of the Customs Union be approached with a view to obtaining their consent to such an amendment of the Convention as would authorise the promulgation of a law prohibiting the export of timber from British Bechuanaland.

I desire once more to call attention to the urgent need for the establishment in the Crown Colony of a Superior Court of first instance and of a system of trial by jury. The increased population of the Territory, notably that of the district of Vryburg, the influx of people, and the increase of trade which will undoubtedly follow upon the extension of the railway northwards from Vryburg, in my opinion, demand a change in the present judicial system.

The trial of serious cases by a Court consisting of three Magistrates has been suggested as an alternative to the establishment of such Superior Court. I do not, however, consider that such a course would give satisfaction, nor do I feel justified, in the absence of a Court of Appeal consisting of more than one judge, in recommending it.

I beg again to call his Honour's attention to the necessity of an extradition treaty with the South African Republic, and of reciprocal legislation with the various States in South Africa on the question of the endorsement of writs of execution.

During the course of the year ended 31st March last, I visited the Bechuanaland Protectorate on three occasions, to prosecute three cases of murder, at Kanya, Gaberones, and Macloutsie respectively. In two of these cases a conviction was obtained and the accused were sentenced to death, but the sentence was carried out in one instance only, his Excellency the High Commissioner having commuted the sentence in the other to one of imprisonment with hard labour for 20 years. Owing to the sparsity of the European population, and to the fact that the native Chiefs in the Protectorate exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction over natives of their own tribes, the judicial work of the Magistrates, Assistant Commissioners, and Officers who acted as Resident Commissioners during the absence in England of Sir Sidney Shippard, has been light. I therefore have no special remarks to make with reference to criminal matters in this part of the country.

(Signed) J. VINTCENT,
Crown Prosecutor.

Gaberones, May 27th, 1893.

REPORT of the SURVEYOR GENERAL for 1892-3.

Trigonometrical Survey.

Acting under instructions received in March 1892, Mr. Bosman proceeded to extend the trigonometrical survey of this territory from the last piles along the Molopo, viz.: Toeslaan and Biesjespoort, westwards up to the 20th meridian near Aries, and northward in the direction of David Vilander's capital Naas or Rietfontein. A period of detention, necessitated by the severe drought, was devoted to astronomical observations in order to determine the astronomical latitude and azimuth of the stations Upington and Vet-Rivier.

The results of the latitude determined astronomically and geodetically are as follows :—

Station.	Astronomical Latitude.	Geodetic. Latitude.	Difference.
Upington - -	28° 26′ 36″·528	28° 26′ 36″·97	0″·442
Vet-Rivier - -	26° 49′ 16″·228	26° 49′ 16″·493	0″·265

For both purposes a new universal theodolite was used.

The mean error of a single observed angle in the last section of the triangulation is ± 0″·628, and the probable error ± 0″·424.

Taking into consideration that the greater portion of the triangulation was extended over a country covered with sand dunes, which are very unfavourable for observations, these results are most satisfactory, and compare favourably with the most carefully executed European triangulations.

The length over which the trigonometrical survey has in the last section been extended is about 135 miles, the average breadth 11 miles, and the area about 1,500 square miles.

Co-ordinate Surveys.

During the past year no Crown land in British Bechuanaland has been surveyed, except in the districts of Gordonia and Mier, but three surveyors with their assistants have been steadily at work on private properties with the result that almost the whole of the country formerly known as Stellaland, including the whole district of Vryburg and part of that of Mafeking, has now been surveyed and connected with the trigonometrical base.

Gordonia.

In the district of Gordonia four duly qualified surveyors have been employed, first upon the survey of private properties, which is now quite completed, and secondly on the survey of certain Government farms and trek places, and of some large blocks of vacant Crown land measuring 25,000 to 30,000 morgen each. These large blocks were surveyed under instructions from the late Surveyor General, who thought that, owing to the nature of the soil and the extreme uncertainty of finding water, it would be

useless to put into the market smaller blocks, whereas a number of farmers might combine to purchase a large block and have it subdivided after the capabilities of the land had been tested.

It is expected that good prices will be realised when these farms are offered for sale.

In addition to the above farm surveys, the village of Keimoes has been laid out, and the commonage of Upington has been surveyed.

Disputed Territory.

Owing to a dispute as to ground between the Chiefs Montsioa and Bathoen, a Commission was appointed to inquire into and decide the matter. After due inspection and inquiry, the Commissioners decided in favour of Bathoen, but the boundary line fixed by them has not yet been definitely demarcated.

Protectorate Boundary.

For the purpose of settling a complaint arising out of an alleged theft of Montsioa's cattle at Punyani, and to prevent further disputes as to the boundary line between that portion of the Bechuanaland Protectorate and the South African Republic, Mr. Cloete was instructed to proceed to Ramathlabama, and to run a line from the Convention beacon at that place to the convention beacon at Matlase, a distance of 13 miles. This work has been satisfactorily performed and no less than 29 line beacons erected.

Legislation.

A Proclamation has been issued regulating the admission of land surveyors to practise in this territory, and will prevent any possibility of unqualified men being employed.

Land Sales.

During the past year three of the farms hypothecated to the Imperial Government have been sold and released from the operation of the bond; while a fourth has been sold, though not yet paid for in full. At Mafeking four erven, and at Vryburg four erven, have been sold.

Grants of Land.

Grants of erven have been made at Vryburg, to the Public School Committee and the Dopper Community; and at Mafeking erven have been granted to the Dutch Reformed Church, and a public recreation ground has been given to the town.

Demand for Land.

The demand for land is greater than ever, applications being made almost daily, but the prohibitive price asked for land has hitherto blocked all sales. It is, however, a subject for congratulation that the impediment which during the last four years has almost entirely prevented the sale of Crown land has been partially removed by fixing the minimum price of land at 1*s.* 6*d.* instead of 3*s.* per morgen, and making terms of payment easier.

Even at this minimum price much of the land will probably be unsaleable owing to its poorness and the difficulty of finding water.

Several parties of farmers have been out, and some are now inspecting the vacant Crown lands west and north of Genesa, and are prepared to purchase large blocks at 1*s.* 6*d.* per morgen on the terms lately approved, which correspond to those in vogue in the Cape Colony.

No satisfactory settlement of that portion of the country can be made, however, till the Morokwen Native Reserve has been properly surveyed and demarcated on the ground. This survey and that of Block IV. of the land granted to the Cape Colonial Government are absolutely necessary unless the beneficial settlement of this territory, and the progress of civilisation north-westwards are to be retarded.

Claims to Land.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that one of the few outstanding claims under the Land Commission Award has been settled by the acceptance of the farm "Everton" by Mr. Jarvis in full satisfaction of all his claims against this Government.

Departmental Work.

The slight increase in the number of titles issued (201 this year as compared to 216 last), is due to the fact that no diagrams could be signed during the last two months pending the appointment of a Surveyor General.

Considerably over 1,000 diagrams have been examined, while about 600 diagrams have been prepared by the draughtsmen, in addition to numerous plans and tracings.

A map of the surveyed portions of British Bechuanaland is now in course of reproduction from Mr. Fleming's compilation at the Intelligence Department of the War Office in England, and will be added to from time to time.

Building.

The fabric of the Survey Offices has fallen into such bad repair that a large portion must be taken down, and extensive alterations, including a much needed strong room, and an extension of the draughting room, are shortly to be commenced.

I cannot close this report without alluding to the loss which the staff of this Department have sustained in the death of Mr. Moorrees, who was not merely a just and conscientious chief, but a good and kind friend. He carried on the work of this office in a most thorough and efficient manner, and to his unceasing energy the Government owe the satisfactory settlement of many questions arising out of the annexation of the district of Mier, and the survey of the district of Gordonia.

F. WINDLEY,
pro Surveyor-General.

Vryburg, April 6, 1893.

ANNUAL REPORT on the POST OFFICE for 1892–3.

There has been a slight falling off in the Postal Revenue during the past year, instead of the large increase estimated.

	£	s.	d.
The Postal Revenue, for the 18 months to 31st March, 1892, was shown as - -	7,976	9	8
which, deducting one-third, - - -	2,658	16	6
gives as the revenue for the year - -	5,317	13	2
The amount estimated for the past year was -	7,000	0	0

	£	s.	d.
and the revenue was - -	4,870	12	9
to which must be added the Mashonaland and Protectorate postage, payable by the Cape Colony for March, estimated at - - - -	100	0	0
Giving a total revenue of - - -	4,970	12	9

being 347*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*, less than the previous year. This is probably due, to a considerable extent, to the alterations made in the Mashonaland rates and method of working, and to the fact that, during a portion of the 18 months previous, the line of railway to Vryburg was under construction.

During the past year the Postmaster at Macloutsie has been removed and a Post Office agent appointed, by which a saving of 200*l.* a year has been effected. The making up of the Mashonaland mails, which was formerly done at Macloutsie, was removed to the Vryburg Post Office, but since this was done new arrangements were entered into, and now Mashonaland mail matter, emanating from Cape Colony and other South African States, is made up at Kimberley or other Colonial Offices.

The principal item of expenditure is for the conveyance of mails from Mafeking to Macloutsie, the present cost of which is 5,960*l.*, and as the revenue derived from the Protectorate and Mashonaland does not, I estimate, exceed 2,000*l.*, the actual net cost is nearly 4,000*l.*

The large increase in the farming population, especially in the District of Vryburg, necessitates better internal postal communication, and it is hoped that a system of field cornets' posts will shortly be established.

The rates of postage between the United Kingdom and British Bechuanaland are somewhat anomalous, as from England the rate is 2½*d.*, and from Bechuanaland 4*d.*

Telegraph.

	£	s.	d.
The revenue under this head has slightly increased, that shown for the previous 18 months being - - - -	4,521	9	2
which, deducting one-third, - - -	1,507	3	1
gives as revenue for the year - -	3,014	6	1
The revenue for the past year was - -	3,093	3	11
and the amount estimated - - -	3,730	0	0

It will appear from the Returns attached,* that the bulk of the work is between Mashonaland and the Cape Colony, all of which is transmitted at Mafeking, a portion of the salaries of the employés at this place being paid by the British South Africa Company.

There have been very few faults on the line under the control of this Department during the period over which this report extends.

The Telegraph Office at Taungs has been closed since 1st August last, and the Civil Commissioner's Clerk has been appointed Acting Postmaster, by which a saving of 132*l.* a year in salaries is effected, besides a certain amount for cost of maintenance. The telegraph work at this place was very light, and Taungs Station, which is a telegraph office, is about 3½ miles distant.

As the management of the postal and telegraph systems has been handed over to the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony from the 1st April 1893, this Department has now ceased to exist.

(Signed) R. TILLARD,
Acting Postmaster-General.

1st April 1893.

REPORT of the COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS for 1892–3.

SIR, Mafeking, May 13, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the report from the Customs Department, for the year ending 31st March last.

Imports.

The following is a statement of the total "declared" value (at port of shipment) of goods imported during the last four years.

* Not printed.

Financial Year.	For consumption in			Total.
	British Bechuanaland.	The Bechuanaland Protectorate.	British South Africa Company's Territories *viâ* Bechuanaland.	
	£	£	£	£
1889–90 -	—	—	—	62,213
1890–91 -	—	—	—	132,607
1891–92 -	91,812*	18,086	36,409	146,307*
1892–93 -	83,843	15,107	8,909	107,859

* N.B.—The figures given in last year's report did not include 1,759*l.* worth of certain goods removed from Bond for Union Consumption.

From these figures it will be observed that, as regards British Bechuanaland, there has been a decrease of about 8,000*l.* in value of imports for consumption last year as compared with the previous year. The returns for March quarter show a total of only 17,715*l.*, which is the lowest amount of any quarter during the past two years. The decrease is attributable to general depression in business, resulting from the entire loss of our carrying trade for Johannesburg, the loss of three-fourths of our trade with Mashonaland, and the loss of one-sixth of our trade with the Bechuanaland Protectorate. If it had not been for the steady influx of farmers into the Vryburg Division the total territorial imports would have shown a much more serious decline owing to the above causes.

A large proportion of the imports into the Protectorate is for the use of the Bechuanaland Border Police. It is observed that the supplies for the natives in the Northern Protectorate have decreased considerably; and there is reason to believe that the restrictions placed upon the sale of arms and ammunition have re-acted prejudicially upon general business. It is reported that many of Khama's men entertain prejudices against the registration of their guns, without which they are not permitted to purchase cartridges, gunpowder, or lead. As so few are willing to comply with the requirements of the law, and they are limited to 100 rounds per annum each, the quantity of ammunition procurable by them is insufficient to warrant their starting upon their usual lengthy hunting trips, because, whilst absent from their kraals, (often for several months at a time) they have to depend upon their guns for food. The consequence is that many hunters remain at home now; and, although wild ostriches are very plentiful in the old hunting grounds, only about one-third of the former quantity of feathers is brought to the traders to be

exchanged for imported goods. It is noteworthy that the value of goods "rebated" to the Protectorate has fallen from 7,518*l.* during the quarter ended 31st March 1891, to 2,693*l.* in the corresponding period of 1893.

The value of goods entered as having been consigned to the British South Africa Company's territories from the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland last year is less than one-fourth of the preceding year's total, the figures being 8,909*l.* as against 36,409*l.* The imports into Mashonaland during 1891–92 may have been greater than the requirements of the population then warranted, but this theory would not account for such a vast difference in the amounts. There is reason to believe that in spite of the facts that the trade-route through Bechuanaland is much more healthy, and has better grass than that from Pretoria to Tuli, a large proportion of the goods consumed in Mashonaland is now drawn from the South African Republic. This divergence of the course of trade is traceable to the special railway rates charged upon goods consigned to the Transvaal. The charge for conveying ordinary goods per rail from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria is less than the amount payable on similar goods sent from Port Elizabeth to Vryburg when entered for consumption in Bechuanaland or Mashonaland; although the distance from that port to Vryburg is 100 miles less than it is to Pretoria. A rebate of railage, amounting to nearly 4*l.* per ton, is also allowed on "second class" goods consigned from Port Elizabeth *viâ* Vryburg to the South African Republic. This places our merchants at a disadvantage when competing for the "up country" trade, and they have consequently made applications to the railway department for a similar concession in respect of goods consigned by them to Mashonaland through the Protectorate, but hitherto without success.

The inequality of rates referred to above not only affects the merchants, but also European and native carriers in this Territory, who have lost a considerable portion of their former source of income and whose purchasing power is correspondingly reduced. In addition to this, storekeepers and farmers from the western districts of the Transvaal, who bring wool, mohair, and produce to Bechuanaland for sale, take the proceeds out of this country in specie instead of purchasing goods here; it being cheaper for them to buy in their own State where they have the advantage of rebate of railway charges. The total value of goods sent under rebate of Customs duty from Bechuanaland to the South African Republic last year amounted to only 344*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* When the latter State shall have entered the Customs Union, and the Bechuanaland Railway rates are assimilated to those of its competitor, there is no doubt that a very considerable trade will spring up between the merchants in this Territory and the storekeepers and farmers in the neighbouring districts of the Republic, to their mutual advantage.

The following is a comparative return of goods received at the Vryburg Railway Station during the last two financial years :—

	1891–2.	1892–3.
Total weight received - - - lbs.	39,469,413	12,611,596
Waggons-loads cleared at local Custom House - - - - - No.	4,302	847
Weight of goods cleared at local Custom House - - - - - lbs.	31,068,864	6,220,497

This great difference is accounted for to a very limited extent by the falling off in the bulk of our trade with the Protectorate and Mashonaland, but chiefly in the purely "forwarding" traffic formerly passing through Vryburg to the South African Republic, which is now transported *viâ* the Orange Free State.

Exports.

I am indebted to the kindness of the Assistant Commissioner for Railways and Public Works for statistics showing the weights of goods removed per rail from Bechuanaland stations to stations in the Cape Colony, Orange Free State, and the South African Republic. The following is a summary of the information thus supplied :—

Destination and Classification.	Four months to March 1891.	Financial year, 1891–2.	Financial year, 1892–3.
CAPE COLONY.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
General merchandise - -	333,851	1,210,938	509,982
Wool and mohair - -	176,685	673,585	558,912
Grain and cereals - -	5,300	4,243,159	7,331,313
Agricultural produce, not otherwise specified - - -	2,891	319,920	231,019
Timber and firewood - -	80,676	7,652,431	34,890,168
Minerals and gravel - -	—	805,746	517,981
Skins, hides, horns, and ivory -	180,685	980,681	680,497
	780,088	15,886,460	44,719,872
ORANGE FREE STATE.			
General merchandise - -	75	97,785	22,250
SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.			
General merchandise - -	—	—	3,149
Grain and cereals - -	—	—	433
	780,163	15,984,245	44,745,704

The decreases in weights of "general merchandise," "wool and mohair," and "agricultural produce not otherwise specified," point to a shrinkage in the trade between Bechuanaland and the South African Republic. It is to be feared that the item "minerals and gravel" includes more of the latter than of the former. The very marked decrease under the head of "skins, hides, horns, and ivory" indicates that there has been less hunting by natives in

the Protectorate than there was in the preceding year. There is a very satisfactory increase in the item "grain and cereals"; but, owing to the damage done by locusts in many portions of this Territory and in the Protectorate recently, it is probable that there will not be such a large surplus for export during the current year. The last item upon which I have to remark, viz., "timber and firewood," must be very satisfactory from the railway point of view in swelling traffic returns. In my report last year I remarked upon the fact that the quantity sent to the diamond fields had risen to 2,118,004 lbs. in March 1892. Since then the weight has gone on increasing from an average of about 1,000 tons per month until last quarter, when the average rose to no less than 1,850 tons per month. I am aware that the matter of the destruction of green wood in this Territory has received your Honour's attention, and that his Excellency the Governor has been pleased to legislate on the subject. I am glad to learn that the greater portion of the "timber and firewood," forwarded to Kimberley from Bechuanaland recently, has been dead wood.

Customs Duties Collected.

The following is a statement of cash receipts during the past financial year:—

	£	s.	d.
From the Cape Government, being three-fourths of full duty upon goods removed for consumption in British Bechuanaland from January to December 1892	11,906	0	6
From the Orange Free State Government, being three-fourths of full duty upon goods removed for consumption in British Bechuanaland from January to December 1892	45	3	7
Collected at Vryburg (full duties upon first importation), April 1892 to March 1893	37	4	1
Collected at Mafeking on first importation and upon delivery from Bond; share of this Government	1,562	0	3
Total revenue receipts	13,550	8	5

The following amounts collected at Mafeking upon delivery of goods from Bond, and due to the Cape Government in terms of the Customs Union Convention, have been treated as "Deposits," viz.:—

	£	s.	d.			
One-fourth of full duty on goods entered for consumption in this Territory	474	1	10			
The whole of the duty, less rebate, on goods entered for export	672	18	5			
				1,147	0	3
The gross cash receipts being				£14,697	8	8

as compared with 13,225*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* during the preceding year.

In addition to the 1,147*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* referred to above, which was treated as a "deposit" in the monthly accounts, we have had to pay to the Cape Government, in terms of Article 2 of the Customs Union Convention, the sum of 224*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* in respect of duty upon goods returned to the Cape Colony by residents in this Territory.

The amounts and proportions comprising the revenue of 13,550*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*, contributed by the various classes of merchandise are as follows:—

	£	Per cent.	Duty.	Percentage.
			£	
Provisions (various)			1,155	8·5
Coffee	1,221	9·01		
Chicory	101	·74		
Tea	545	4·02		
Sugar	1,094	8·07		
			2,961	21·8
Ale and beer	545	4·02		
Spirits	1,689	12·46		
Wine	117	·86		
			2,351	17·4
Tobacco (all kinds)	294	2·17		
Drugs, &c.	95	·70		
			389	2·9
Total of food, drink, and narcotics			6,856	50·6
Raw Materials			110	·8
Manufactured Articles:—				
Textile	3,464	25.56		
Metal	966	7·13		
Other	1,759	12·98		
			6,189	45·7
Unclassified			395	2·9
Total			13,550	100·0

The general revenue of the Territory also benefits to some extent by the sale of "blank stamps" to be affixed to Customs documents. The total under this head during the year 1891–2 was only 20*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, but last year owing to the fact that Mafeking had been proclaimed a "free warehousing town" there was a substantial increase. The details are as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Stamps upon 2,090 bills of entry at 6*d.*	52	5	0
„ „ 3 acts of suretyship, 2*s.*	0	6	0
„ „ 388 exports bonds, 2*s.* 6*d.*	48	10	0
Total	£101	1	0

BRITISH BECHUANALAND. 1892–3.

Effect of increased Farming Population upon the Customs Revenue.

In view of the agitation for a reduction of quit-rents in this Territory, which it is alleged would result in a great increase in our farming population, I have made searching inquiries amongst the several storekeepers here concerning the sale of each of fifty-two principal articles of trade to Europeans and natives respectively, in order to estimate the average value per head to the Customs Revenue of European settlers.

As the result of very careful calculations, based upon the information thus obtained, I gather that of the 84,000*l.* worth of goods imported last year, at least 48,000*l.* worth, or four-sevenths, has been purchased by Europeans. The proportion of the contribution by Europeans to the total of Customs Revenue differs somewhat from the above, owing to heavier duties being imposed upon luxuries which are purchased almost exclusively by white people. Of the 13,550*l.* collected during the past year I calculate that no less than 9,100*l.*, or two-thirds, was paid by Europeans. Since the Census was taken in 1891 there have been many departures from this Territory owing to general depression in business. On the other hand several farmers have come to settle in the Vryburg Division. I estimate, therefore, that the present population is about equal to what it was two years ago. Taking the same figures, viz., 5,211 Europeans and white persons of all ages as contributing 9,100*l.* to our Customs Revenue, it will be found that the present average is 1*l.* 15*s.* per head per annum.

The number of persons engaged in "Agricultural pursuits" in 1891 was 3,612, exclusive of "domestics" and "dependants." As the two latter classes bear a proportion of 53 per cent. to the total population it may be assumed that there were then at least 5,500 persons of various races upon farms in this Territory. The number of Europeans or white persons residing in "rural areas" was 3,140 in 1891, and probably increased to not less than 3,500 during last year. At the average of 1*l.* 15*s.* per head, mentioned above, this number would contribute 6,125*l.* to the Customs Revenue. It is difficult to estimate the additional contribution by others than Europeans employed or living upon farms, but 375*l.* would certainly be within the mark. This amount brings the Customs Revenue from occupied farms up to 6,500*l.* per annum. I have not been able to ascertain the exact number of such farms, but will take it at 425. This total, divided into 6,500*l.*, indicates an average contribution to Customs Revenue of 15*l.* 5*s.* from each occupied farm for the past year. Many of these properties have only been occupied within the last three years, and it is evident that, when they yield a fair return for capital and labour employed, the purchasing power of the occupiers will be greatly increased, to the corresponding benefit of our revenue.

In order to obtain a fresh basis for calculations certain personal accounts in the books of a local storekeeper have been analysed at

my request. It is found that a fairly prosperous farmer, who has been five or six years in this Territory, spends upon agricultural implements, building materials, and ordinary imported necessaries, upwards of 400*l.* per annum, whilst a much poorer farmer spends about 250*l.* per annum; the mean thus being 325*l.* I was assured that these amounts are very reasonable. The Customs Revenue of 13,550*l.* received last year was in respect of goods valued at 87,328*l.*, therefore the rate of duty received by the Bechuanaland Government (after allowing the other members of the Customs Union their share under the Convention) averages 15½ per cent. upon the oversea valuation. Goods which are sold here for 325*l.* probably cost about 150*l.* at the place whence imported. It follows, therefore, that our Customs Revenue, in respect of goods purchased for farms which have been occupied five or six years, may be taken to average (15½ per cent. on 150) 23*l.* 5*s.* per annum, or 8*l.* more than the probable average at present.

Following upon the increase and prosperity of the farming community there will also be an increase of population in urban areas to supply their various requirements, with a further corresponding addition to our Customs Revenue.

I have made no calculations as to the amount contributed to our Revenue by each native because it is evident that the census returns do not include all the Baralong and Batlapin in this Territory. I have been informed by the local Wesleyan Missionary that at least 16,000 of the former tribe look to the Chief Montsioa as their head; whereas the total of Kaffir and Bechuana, given in the Census Report, is only 3,011.

Bonding Warehouses.

The Mafeking merchants continue to avail themselves freely of the advantages of the bonding system, as will be seen from the following figures:—

—	Packages.	Oversea Value.
		£ s. d.
On 1st April 1892 there was in bond a balance of	1,983	2,753 8 10
During the year there were received into bond -	9,625	15,774 12 9
Making a total of - - - - -	11,608	18,528 1 7
The "deliveries" have been - - -	9,130	15,025 3 6
The balance on 31st March 1893 being - -	2,478	3,502 18 1

General.

Annexed hereto will be found, upon the printed forms supplied for the purpose, such details* respecting imports as I am in a position to furnish. Owing to the geographical situation of this Territory the majority of our supplies are imported through the Cape Colony, and it is impossible under existing circumstances to ascertain where such goods were manufactured or produced. The value quoted is that at port of shipment plus 5 per cent. only, whereas this percentage is utterly inadequate to indicate the cost of importing. The amount of duty received during the financial year differs from the amount of full duty upon the imports for the same period; firstly, because the Cape Government retains one-fourth of the duties for cost of collection, and secondly, because it is impossible to ascertain the correct quantities and values, and to adjust accounts between the parties to the Union, during the quarter in which the goods were actually removed from one Colony to the other.

I have to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Collector of Customs for the Cape Colony and to the Assistant Collector (Mr. Overbeek) for valuable information supplied and for assistance rendered whenever sought for by me. I have also to express my gratitude to Captain Fuller, Bechuanaland Border Police, for his readiness to help this Department at all times; and also to thank the Principal Officer at Vryburg (Mr. Girdwood), and the Customs Officers at Mafeking, for their vigilance and carefulness in the performance of their respective duties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST C. BAXTER,
Collector of Customs.

His Honour the Administrator,
British Bechuanaland.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NATIVE RESERVES for 1892–3.

SIR, Request, April 15, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, that the collections of hut tax were made in the Taungs district during the months of April, May, a part of June, and again in the latter end of August; and also in the Kuruman district the latter end of June, July, and early part of August 1892.

The amount collected during this period was one thousand seven hundred and eighteen pounds sterling (1,718*l.*), being balance of money due for the year ending 31st March 1891.

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* Not printed.

Collections for the year, 1st April to 1891 to 31st March 1892, were commenced in October 1892, and carried on until 31st March 1893, resulting in the amount of one thousand six hundred and forty-two pounds ten shillings sterling (1,642*l.* 10*s.*).

There is a falling off in the amount collected in the Kuruman district owing to a great extent to the restrictions *re* foot-and-mouth disease, as the natives cannot cross the border in order to dispose of fruit and produce among the farmers and traders in the Colony and Free State.

The collections in the neighbourhood of Mafeking were also below the average owing, I believe, to the fact that the Chief Montsioa had made heavy calls on the resources of his people for the purpose of defraying his share of the expenses of the Bangwaketsi-Barolong Boundary Commission.

Although the collections for the past year have not reached the estimated amount, I have no doubt that the deficit will be made up in the next few months.

The Crops,

I consider, will be a failure this season throughout the Territory, owing, firstly, to the scarcity of rain in the early part of the summer, and secondly, to the ravages of locusts.

Malarial Fever.

Several cases of this epidemic came under my notice on the Molopo, Mashaoing, Matlhoareng and Kuruman rivers, and several deaths took place.

Syphilis appears to be making rapid progress among the natives of this Territory.

Appointments.

In October last the Honourable Eustace Fiennes was appointed Collector of Hut Tax, but was compelled to leave his duties at the end of November, owing to ill health, and eventually resigned.

On the 19th January 1893 Mr. D. W. Manning joined me to take up the appointment left vacant by Mr. Fiennes, and has so far satisfactorily done his duty, assisted by Mr. J. P. McCarthy as Interpreter.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Manning has no knowledge either of Dutch or Sechoana, as he cannot thoroughly do his duties until he has gained a slight erudition of one or both of these languages.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND. 1892–3.

In October and November last I was personally employed on the Bangwaketsi-Barolong Boundary Commission, and on my return to Mafeking, on 1st December, took over the work left by Mr. Fiennes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. ST. QUINTIN,
Inspector of Native Reserves.

To the Secretary,
His Honour the Administrator,
Vryburg.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER and RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, VRYBURG, for 1892–3.

The railway system of the Cape Colony, having been extended to Johannesburg during the past year, the large volume of trade which for some months previously had passed through Vryburg for that portion of the Transvaal, and a considerable portion of that for Mashonaland, has now been diverted, and in consequence of this a number of persons who carried on forwarding business have closed and left the Territory. A considerable depression in trade might have been expected, and the fact that the general business of the town has not been affected, at least to any appreciable extent, shows that real and substantial progress has been made by the farming community of the division upon whom the trade of the town now almost entirely depends. The comparative statement* attached of the revenue for the two past years shows that in all the important items indicating improvement or retrogression, such as licenses, stamps, transfer duty, and quit-rent, there has been no falling off.

The influx of farmers mentioned in my last report, from the Cape Colony and Orange Free State, has steadily continued, and I think I am safe in saying that the rural population of the division has doubled during the last two years.

According to the Divisional Council's valuation list, framed last year, there are 493 farms in this division, but this is counting each sub-division as a farm and 321,517 morgen of ground set aside for native locations. These are valued at 357,970*l.* and the town properties at 43,265*l.*, making the total valuation of the division 401,235*l.* A good many new farms have been added to the list and the Native Reserves were not formerly included but there is no doubt that there has been a very substantial increase in the value of farm properties, especially in the vicinity of the town and in farms on which there is a water supply. The sales recently effected show that the valuation, though somewhat high, was generally a fair one, and I may also state that it appears purchases are now usually made for purposes

* Not printed.

of occupation, and not, as formerly, for speculation. The valuation showed 204 occupied farms, but this number has no doubt since increased and I should say there would at present be about 250. Omitting, therefore, from the number of farms 65 belonging to companies, only two of which I believe are occupied, it appears that very nearly five-eighths of the farms are in occupation. The large increase of the farming population renders increased facilities for internal postal communication, to which I alluded in my last report, more necessary than ever.

The wood-cutting, also alluded to in my last report, has, I regret to say, greatly increased, and the quantity exported must number some thousands of tons a month. The price obtained here is so small, about 1*s.* per 100 lbs., as to be barely remunerative, and the deforestation of the division, which may be attended with serious consequences, is being carried on without really benefiting even the people employed.

The health of the inhabitants both in town and country has been generally good.

Cattle have done well, there has been less lung sickness than usual, and the foot-and-mouth disease, which spread rapidly over the country, proved to be not at all serious and very amenable to treatment. It appears it must be either a different disease or a modified form of that usually met with.

The number of sheep and goats, and the export of wool and mohair, have considerably increased. Horse sickness has not been so severe as usual, though several have already died and the disease is not yet over.

The Agricultural prospects are poor. The lateness of rain in the spring, and the presence of large swarms of locusts, deterred many farmers from sowing. The locusts, however, hatched out in the district, were destroyed in a somewhat remarkable manner. Small flies attacked them, laying eggs in their bodies; these eggs, when hatched, became maggots and killed the locusts. Numbers, of large swarms were totally annihilated in this way, and for some considerable time there were hardly any locusts in the division, but they have, unfortunately, lately made their appearance again.

Considerable local excitement was occasioned a few months ago by the discovery of diamonds. Three small stones were accidentally picked up in the main street within the space of a few weeks, and, as the street had been recently gravelled, the inference was that the diamonds came with the gravel. A license to prospect the gravel pits was accordingly taken out and after considerable work had been done a small diamond was found; as, however, further work did not result in more finds the work was abandoned. Three other prospectors are, however, now at work in the vicinity, and one of them has discovered three diamonds, one of fair size and good shape and colour.

The revenue of the Divisional Council will of course be greatly increased under the new valuation, although a lower rate has this year been levied, but the enormous extent of the roads which have to be made, and not merely kept in repair, renders it impossible for the Council to satisfy the requirements of the division.

The same may be said of the Board of Management, whose resources are insufficient to enable them to make the streets in the township. The Board is at present engaged in considering a scheme for providing a supply of water for the town, and it is hoped it may prove successful as it is at present the great want of the place.

An attempt is being made by the two local bodies to establish a stock fair in Vryburg. There is no doubt that, if successful, it will be a great benefit to the district, but it is out of the question to start it so long as the Proclamation prohibiting the importation of stock into the Cape Colony, on account of the foot-and-mouth disease, remains in force.

I annex a return of rainfall during the last year, taken by Mr. May. It is rather under the average and is even more unevenly distributed than usual, nearly half the rainfall for the year being recorded in January. The want of rain in the spring, from August to November, is one of the greatest drawbacks to this country.

There has been a slight increase of crime during the latter part of the year, attributable, in my opinion, to the number of colonial natives and half-castes who have come into the Territory. In 1892 there were 537 cases tried, resulting in 409 convictions.

There is hardly any crime amongst the farming population and very little amongst the natives of the Territory. From the annexed return,* showing the nationalities of prisoners in gaol, it will be seen that 19 are at present in gaol, and taking into consideration that this is the Central Gaol for all long-sentence prisoners in the Territory, and looking at the aboriginal population, it will, I think, be admitted that the proportion of crime is very small. Stock stealing has increased, which I attribute to the growing and pernicious practice of farmers having colonial native "squatters" on their farms. There have been a considerable number of cases of "supplying liquor to natives," principally by "Cape Boys," who being half-castes, not resident in locations are allowed by the law to get liquor, which they in many cases sell or give to natives. The supply is, however, almost entirely confined to the colonial natives. There have been very few contested or important civil cases during the year.

Central Gaol.

The health of the prisoners has been good and there have been no deaths. A great deal of useful labour in connexion with

* Not printed.

Public Works has been performed by the convicts, equal in value, in my opinion, to their cost of maintenance. A record is being kep this year of the estimated value of each convict's labour and the work on which employed, so that a fair estimate can be framed in future. The daily cost, including fuel, of each prisoner is about 7*d.*

Convicts are encouraged as much as possible to learn trades and several have, during their incarceration, become good workmen. A workshop is shortly about to be built, close to the gaol, which will be of great assistance in this respect.

Buildings.

A new Court Room, with waiting rooms, has been built and supplies, a long-felt want. All the buildings in connexion with this Department are in good repair.

R. TILLARD,
Civil Commissioner and
Resident Magistrate.

Rainfall, Vryburg, 1892–3.

	Inches.
April - - - - - -	1·33
May - - - - - - -	·38
June - - - - - - -	—
July - - - - - - -	—
August - - - - - -	·23
September - - - - - -	·70
October - - - - - -	1·10
November - - - - - -	1·07
December - - - - - -	1·21
January - - - - - -	10·24
February - - - - - -	3·97
March - - - - - -	1·70
Total - - - -	21·93

RETURN of all MUNICIPALITIES, LOCAL BOARDS, and any other PUBLIC BODIES in the COLONY.

Name of Body.	Authority under which established.	Powers and Duties.	Sources of Revenue.	Amount of Assessment and whether on Annual or Capital Value of Property.	Total Revenue including all Sources.	Expenditure.	Net Amount of Debt.	Qualification of Electors and Number Registered.	Governing Body (Names of, and Mode of Appointment).
Vryburg Divisional Council.	Proclamation 20, B.B., of 1886, applying Act 4 of 1865 (leaving out sections 12, 13, 21 and 57) of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.	The Divisional Council has the power, with consent of the Governor, to declare any road to be a divisional or main road; to close any such divisional or main road; to determine the width of public roads; to establish or abolish tolls and pounds; also to levy a rate upon all rateable property in the division. The duty of the Divisional Council is to make and keep in repair all divisional or main roads in its division. It has also to provide for the extirpation of Xanthium Spinosum (burr-weed).	Rates, 1,268*l.* upon immovable property, tolls and pounds.	½*d.* in the £ on capital value of property.	For the year ended 31st December, 1892. £ *s.* *d.* 593 6 8	For the year ended 31st December, 1892. £ *s.* *d.* 696 11 9	£ 300	Every male person who is the registered owner, occupier, or joint occupier, of any immovable property situated in the division, whose share in such immovable property is of the value of not less than 25*l.*, or who shall have been, for the space of 12 months before registration as a voter, in receipt of salary or wages at the rate of 50*l.* per annum; or at the rate of 25*l.* if supplied with board and lodging in addition. 612 voters.	Chairman: The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate, Vryburg, *ex officio*, Mr. Tillard. Secretary: K. D. McKenzie. Members: Messrs. Wessels, Fincham, Townshend, Hassforther, Gates, Thiron, Pentz and Barnard. The electors in each district nominate, in writing, representatives. If the number returnable by any district is not exceeded, those nominated are duly elected. When such number is exceeded in any district, a poll is held.

RETURN of all MUNICIPALITIES, LOCAL BOARDS, and any other PUBLIC BODIES in the COLONY—*continued.*

Name of Body.	Authority under which established.	Power and Duties.	Sources of Revenue.	Amount of Assessment and whether on Annual or Capital Value of Property.	Total Revenue including all Sources.	Expenditure.	Net Amount of Debt.	Qualification of Electors and Number Registered.	Governing Body (Names of and Mode of Appointment).
Vryburg Village Management Board.	Proclamation No. 25, B.B., 1886, applying Act No. 29, 1881, of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.	The Management Board has the power to levy an annual rate, not exceeding 3*d.* in the £, on all rateable property within the limits of the town; to frame and enforce regulations to prevent the obstruction of any street or road; to provide for the isolation of persons or animals suffering from any infectious or contagious disease; to secure the removal of filth and rubbish from the town; to prevent any building or structure from being kept in a condition dangerous to public or individual safety; to cause all public streets, roads, and places within the limits of the town to be kept in good and sufficient order and repair; to provide for the distribution of water among the inhabitants, and generally to provide for the prevention, removal, or abatement of all nuisances within the limits of the town, which may tend to injure the health, destroy the comfort, or affect the rights of the inhabitants at large.	Rates, 250*l.*, upon immovable property, hut tax, dog tax, grazing fees, leases, Licenses, market dues, pound fees.	1*d.* in the £ on capital value of property.	For the year ended 31st December, 1892. £ *s.* *d.* 947 16 9	For the year ended 31st December 1892. £ *s.* *d.* 829 4 6	530*l.*	Persons qualified as electors for the Divisional Council who reside within the defined limits of the town. 300 voters.	Chairman: The Resident Magistrate, Vryburg, *ex officio*, Mr. Tillard. Secretary: K. D. McKenzie. Members: Messrs. Gates, Macbeth, Fincham, Wessels, Harris, Townshend. At a general meeting of registered voters, called by the Resident Magistrate, candidates are nominated and seconded by electors. In case the number of candidates nominated is in excess of the number of vacancies, a poll is immediately held.

Manufactures.	Mines and Quarries.			
Number, Name, Situation, and Description of Manufactures, Mills, Works, &c.	Number, Name, Situation, and Description of the Mines and Quarries.	Name of Mineral Substance.	Quantity produced and Value.	General Remarks.
There are two steam mills in the Division of Vryburg. The steam power which drives them is also employed in cutting wood, and in one case drives an ærated water machine. The manufacture of cigars has been attempted, but on so small a scale that it can hardly be considered to have passed the experimental stage.	Stone of good quality for building purposes is found upon the surface of a "kopje" near Vryburg; and upon the farm "Bunau" about three miles distant, stone of very pleasing appearance, and of very excellent quality, is obtainable. Salt is produced by the evaporation of the water of a "pan" known as "Groot Choing," about 30 miles from Vryburg. A local syndicate was formed to develop the industry, and this syndicate has now been floated into a more powerful company, which is making extensive preparations to carry on the work on a large scale.	—	—	—

Return of Produce and Stock, &c.

Name of Division.	Crops.—Nature of Crop and Number of Acres in Each.						Stock, Number of.			
	Wheat.	Barley.	Mealies.	Potatoes.	Tobacco.	Vathay.	Horses and Mules.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.
Vryburg	298	16	1,066	30	8	76	1,571	29,229	44,450	34,151

(*continued.*)

Name of Division.	Produce.—Nature of Produce and Quantity of Each.						Price of Produce.—Nature of Produce and Price of Each.			
	Wheat. Muids.	Barley. Muids.	Mealies. Muids.	Potatoes. Muids.	Tobacco. lbs.	Vathay. Bundles.	Mealies. Muids.	Potatoes. Muids.	Tobacco. lbs.	Vathay. Bundles.
Vryburg	1,358	212	1,548	371	6,838	41,160	*s.* 15	*s.* 13	*s.* *d.* 1 6	*d.* 4

Cultivated and Uncultivated Lands, Wages, Produce, Stock, &c.

Estimated Acreage of Cultivated Land in the Division.	Estimated Acreage of Uncultivated Land in the Division.	Estimated Acreage of the Division.
Acres. *1,955	Acres. 7,558,097	Acres. 7,560,052

* This is necessarily only a rough estimate, there being no data to go upon in returns of this and a similar nature. The Census Returns, compiled two years ago, have been taken as a basis for estimates of this sort.

Average Rate of Wages for Labour.

——	Per Annum.	Per Diem.
Predial - - - - -	6*l.* to 12*l.* and food.	——
Domestic - - - - -	12*l.* to 18*l.* and food.	——
Trades - - - - -	——	10*s.* to 15*s.*

Labour, both predial and domestic, is almost entirely native.

Average Prices of various Articles of Use and Consumption.

——		Prices.	Prices in			
			January.	April.	July.	October.
		£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Wheaten flour -	per lb.	0 4 0	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4
Wheat -	„	—	—	—	—	—
Wheaten bread -	„	0 4 0	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4
Mealie meal -	per 100 lbs.	0 10 0	0 15 0	0 12 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
Beer meal - -	,	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Horned cattle -	each	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0
Horses - -	„	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	15 0 0	10 0 0
Sheep - -	„	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0
Goats - -	„	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
Swine - -	„	—	—	—	—	—
Milk - -	per bottle	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0	0 0 6	0 0 4
Butter, fresh -	per lb.	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 2 0	0 1 6
„ salt -	„	—	—	—	—	—
Cheese - -	„	—	—	—	—	—

—		Prices in.	Prices in January.	Prices in April.	Prices in July.	Prices in October.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beef - -	per lb.	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4
Mutton - -	„	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6
Pork - -	„	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee - -	„	0 1 9	0 1 9	0 1 9	0 1 9	0 1 9
Rice - -	„	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4
Tea - - -	„	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6
Sugar - -	„	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6
Salt - -	„	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1	0 0 1
Wine, Cape -	per bottle	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0
Brandy, Cape -	„	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0
Beer - -	„	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6
Tobacco, colonial -	per lb.	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6

Improvements in agriculture and manufactures introduced this year.	The Division of Vryburg being almost entirely pastoral there is little remark under this heading. Several dams, two of them in the vicinity of Vryburg, of considerable size, have been constructed and wire fencing has been erected on a few farms. During the past year a considerable number of farmers have trekked into this division from the Free State and Cape Colony, and in many cases have brought with them large numbers of cattle.
Progress of any improvements previously reported.	—

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE of MAFEKING for 1892–3.

SIR, 31st March 1893.

IN compliance with your letter dated the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to report that I took over the duties of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Mafeking on the 14th July 1892.

Towards the latter part of last year an epidemic, commonly known as the foot-and-mouth disease, appeared amongst the cattle in the Northern Protectorate, gradually spreading itself southwards, until nearly all the horned cattle in the Southern Protectorate, and in this District of British Bechuanaland, became infected; but fortunately, on account of the grass being green and

soft very few, if any, of the cattle succumbed. After careful inquiry I am delighted to be able to state that all signs of this disease have entirely disappeared from this district. This outbreak retarded the trade and prosperity of the country, as stringent restrictions were placed upon the exportation of cattle from British Bechuanaland into the Cape Colony.

The spring rains were rather late, consequently the natives have not ploughed up as much ground as they did last year; the Kaffir corn-fields are looking very promising and should yield good returns, but the mealie gardens appear to be very behindhand. Stock stealing during the year has increased, and in order to check this I have found it necessary to take stringent measures with these offenders. Montsioa has given me every assistance in arresting stock thieves and bringing them to justice.

The proximity of the Transvaal Border, and the non-existence of an extradition treaty with that State, is an incentive to persons wishing to break the law, for after committing an offence the offender has only to escape across the border line to be free from arrest.

The long-standing boundary dispute between the Barolong and the Bangwaketsi, over a strip of country situated to the north o British Bechuanaland, in the Protectorate, has at last been brought to a satisfactory termination; the line has now been fixed and demarcated by a Commission.

I found that there was a large illicit sale of brandy being carried on with the natives and have used every means to cope with this contravention of the law, the results, so far, being very satisfactory. Montsioa has given me every assistance and appears anxious to keep brandy from his people, well knowing that it will have a most demoralising effect upon his tribe.

The locusts last year destroyed a number of the crops; for a time they disappeared, but I regret to state that of late large swarms have re-appeared, doing considerable damage to the standing crops.

The additions to the gaol building, which were greatly needed, have now been completed.

Farmers residing in this district have made steady progress, improving their farms by building houses, making dams, and erecting fences.

The greater part of this district is not at present available, and is not occupied or used, being reserved for the railway grant. As soon as the railway extension is completed to Mafeking, and this large tract of valuable, unoccupied land surveyed into farms and sold, this district will become a very important forwarding, agricultural, and cattle-breeding centre.

The climate of this most northerly town in British Bechuanaland, situated about 4,000 feet above the sea level, with an average yearly rainfall of 30 inches, is delightful and very healthy, being particularly well adapted for persons suffering from rheumatism and weak chests.

With the advent of the railway, which will place the farmers in touch with the South African markets, and the occupation of all the farms, I anticipate that in a few years great strides will be made in the progress, development, and prosperity of this district.

(Signed) GEORGE J. BOYES,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE of the TAUNGS DISTRICT for 1892–3.

Extract. Taungs, April 4, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report for this district for the last 12 months from 1st April 1892.

The Natives.

The natives in this district have had a year of prosperity such as they have never before experienced in the amount of cash received by them. Although there was a certain amount of damage done by the locusts, the bulk of the crops were so far advanced when the locusts arrived, that there was far less damage, especially with the Kaffir corn, than was anticipated, and the harvest was generally good; and owing to the great demand for grain, through the failure of crops elsewhere, there was a deal of competition from the number of buyers, which broke up the old customs here of trading by barter for goods only, and the natives were able to get liberal prices in cash for their grain. The late Chief Mankoroane judiciously stopped his people from disposing of their grain except for cash; he also ordered them to retain sufficient for the ensuing year. I hope they have done so for I fear from the lateness of the rains, which did not commence until January, and now the appearance of the locusts while the corn is green, there will be no crops this year.

Trade.

At the end of last year, the 31st of December, there had been exported 43,400 bags of grain that had been purchased from the natives in the reserve; at that time the storekeepers had about 1,000 bags of grain in hand; there was also a fair trade in poultry and eggs. I know one storekeeper's receipts from Kimberley averaged 40*l.* a month; there were two or three other storekeepers sending poultry and eggs away.

Cattle.

Last November foot-and-mouth disease broke out among the cattle in the district. The first appearance was among the cattle of a transport rider who had returned from Salisbury or Macloutsie. The Rev. John Brown and some old natives informed me it had

been here many years ago, and that it had disappeared when the fresh grass came after good rains. It certainly did so here this year. There were goods rains the beginning of January, followed by the springing up of fresh grass, shortly afterwards the disease disappeared.

The Chief Molala.

Who has succeeded his father, Mankoroane, is working as Chief very satisfactorily; he is certainly pleasanter to work with, more energetic and willing to carry out orders than his father sometimes was.

Farms.

I regret that there is no favourable change to report respecting the occupation or improvement of the farms in this district. I am informed generally, that the high quit-rent in this district, in comparison with the quit-rent in the adjoining district of Vryburg, causes good men wanting farms in Bechuanaland to seek them in Vryburg district.

Crime.

There has been no serious crime in the district. There have been a few instances of cattle releasing that were being taken to the pound. I have heard several times, from unbiassed information, that farmers are often to blame. I fear that there are some farmers who try and make a living by pounding natives' cattle, or, as it is termed, "making the Kaffir pay for their coffee and sugar." The cattle are sometimes taken from the reserve, the farmer trusting to bounce, and that his evidence will be taken in preference to Kaffirs.

In the beginning of the year several cases of cattle theft were reported to me by Transvaal farmers. By the aid of the telegraph, then open in Taungs, I was able, by wiring sharp to the Colonial Police, to put them on the look-out, so that the farmers recovered their stock and the thieves were captured. The thieves were colonial Kaffirs who were making a trade of stock stealing.

Buildings.

The Government Buildings are in good repair, with the exception of the gaoler's quarters and a few other repairs that I have reported to the Inspector of Public Works.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY LOWE,
Civil Commissioner, and
Resident Magistrate.
(Since deceased.)

To the Secretary, Vryburg.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1892–3.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE for the DISTRICT of KURUMAN for 1892–3.

I was afraid last year that there would be starvation amongst the natives on account of the severe drought, but later on we received such splendid rains that I am glad to say my fears have been entirely dissipated. Should we not get early frosts I think the natives will reap very fair crops. Through circumstances, I have not been able to visit the out-stations during the year, which ought certainly to be done once a year, as it does a large amount of good, the natives always keeping in touch with Government; still, from the patrol reports of the police, everything appears well and the natives quiet and contented.

Last June it was feared that there would be a fever epidemic amongst the natives, but through the timely assistance of the District Surgeon, the evil was arrested, although I am informed that towards the northern boundary of my district several natives succumbed to the disease.

Roads.

As usual, through the late heavy rains, the roads are in a very bad condition.

Public Offices and Gaol.

The Public Offices are still in fair order although repairs are constantly required; buildings of raw brick always do.

Locusts.

The locusts, I am sorry to say, have again made their appearance; large swarms are said to be between Kuruman and the Longberg.

Schools.

No European school has as yet been established in this district. I would venture to suggest that a small grant-in-aid may be given for such a purpose.

Police.

The members of the police stationed in this district have, I am pleased to say, behaved well; I have received no complaints against them. They have also assisted me in every way and have generally rendered good service.

Crime.

Crime is, I am glad to say, hardly known—in my opinion, no doubt due to having no retail liquor licenses in my district, and while the white population is still so small I do not at present see the necessity of having any.

Tabulated Statement of Criminal Cases.

Theft - - - - -	2
Assault - - - - -	8
Housebreaking - - - -	2
Supplying liquor - - - -	1
Pound Ordinance - - - -	1
Firing grass - - - - -	2
Lungsick Ordinance - - - -	1

Passes.

1,120.

(Signed) C. B. SCHULTZ,
Civil Commissioner and
Resident Magistrate.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE of the GORDONIA DISTRICT for 1892–3.

The year just closed compares in many respects unfavourably with the preceding year.

The revenue of the district suffered very considerably from the closing against us of the roads to the Cape Colonial and Transvaal markets, a measure considered necessary by the Cape Government to prevent the spread of the foot-and-mouth disease to the Cape Colony.

Many hawkers could not make their usual trips into and beyond Gordonia, because they would not be allowed to remove the bartered stock to the markets beyond the district. Farmers, dependent on the annual sale of their stock to speculators for an income, were unable to pay their quit-rents as punctually as usual, and consequently there is an uncollected amount of quit-rent, 46*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*, still outstanding.

I am glad, however, to be able to report that Gordonia is altogether free from any contagious, including the foot-and-mouth, disease.

Swarms of locusts from the Kalahari Desert and Namaqualand have completely destroyed the pasturage.

I cannot say that crime is alarmingly increasing. There is much illicit dealing in liquor, and as public opinion is almost invariably in sympathy with the offenders it is frequently carried on with impunity.

Three mission schools exist in this district for the education of coloured boys and girls.

Several attempts to establish a school for European children have failed, mostly because the parents who are in a position to do so prefer to send their children to the Cape Colony.

A good school for the education of our European children is an urgent necessity, but substantial aid from Government is required.

With the exception of a little show of ill feeling on the part of the Chief of the Bondelzwarts, William Christian, against the Chief David Philander, no disturbance occurred on our borders.

C. BAM,
Civil Commissioner and
Resident Magistrate.

Upington, 5th April 1893.

MEDICAL REPORT on the VRYBURG DISTRICT for 1892–3.

SIR,

I. I have the honour to submit, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, that during the last 12 months the district and township of Vryburg have been exceptionally healthy.

II. During this period I have to record the following zymotic diseases which occurred in the township and district, viz., influenza, measles, and enteric fever.

III. I consider that the Contagious Diseases Act ought to be put in force at the Native Location, Vryburg, owing to the large number of native servants (employed by the inhabitants), and that the public should have some protection against the spread of *syphilis*, which is frequently effected through the servants attending children as nurses.

IV. The health of the convicts at the Central Gaol has been excellent; I have treated a large number of cases, total 187, but they have been of trivial nature.

During this period no deaths have occurred in the Gaol Hospital. The diet of the convicts is good. The cells and yards are kept clean, and are in good order.

V. I again wish to bring to his Honour's notice, that I consider it advisable that a compulsory registration of births and deaths for the township and district of Vryburg be instituted. For the

township the secretary of the Village Management Board, and in the county district the field cornets of the various wards, could act as registrars.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILSON M. NUGENT,
District Surgeon, Vryburg.

The Secretary, Vryburg.

MEDICAL REPORT on the MAFEKING DISTRICT for 1892–3.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that during the period 1st April 1892 to 31st March 1893 the health of the Mafeking district has been, with the exception of an epidemic of Russian influenza, in the usual satisfactory condition.

The influenza appeared in June, the type of the disease being mild and terminating fatally in infants and in the otherwise diseased only. The number of cases (whites) observed was 89, the deaths six.

Seventeen cases of malarial fever and two cases of dysentery were recorded during the months of July and August a few cases of chicken-pox appeared.

The total number of deaths for the period 1st April 1892 to 31st March 1893 was 12, 11 from natural causes and one from violence.

The Mafeking Gaol has been kept in good sanitary condition, ample evidence being present in the almost complete absence of illness among the prisoners.

Comparative Table of Principal Diseases observed.

	1891–2.	1892–3.
Fever - - - - -	55	17
Dysentery - - - - -	5	2
Ophthalmia - - - -	49	36
Gastro enternic catarrh - - -	44	39
Influenza - - - -	—	89
Varicella - - - -	—	11

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PIERCE GREEN,
District Surgeon.

British Bechuana-land. 1892-3.

MEDICAL REPORT on the KURUMAN DISTRICT for 1892-3.

SIR,

I HAVE great pleasure in forwarding you my first annual report on the health of the Kuruman District of British Bechuanaland.

The general health is good. There was a very serious outbreak of intermittent fever in the first half of 1892 over the whole district, but more especially along the Matlaring and Mashowing rivers and, according to instructions, I made two journeys along the Matlaring and one along the Mashowing and distributed a large quantity of quinine, which I am glad to say proved very effective in stamping out the fever. I traced 48 deaths in the Staadts along the Matlaring, and 43 deaths along the Mashowing, but these figures do not nearly represent the exact quantity, for so many Headmen were very anxious to conceal the fact of there having been any illness among them. In my report of the journeys I mentioned the fact, and some, while telling me of the sickness, absolutely refused medicine.

I must bring before your notice again the great quantity of syphilis and lupus there is among the natives, and at Takoon especially, scarcely a hut escaping. Very stringent measures ought to be taken in order to stop the spread of this loathsome disease. The natives live huddled together eating and drinking from the same utensils regardless of the consequences, and thus communicate the disease from one to the other. The quantity of children that are suffering from sores on their bodies is perfectly alarming, and from neglect get very serious; in regard to this I cannot speak too strongly, nor urge too strongly for some notice to be taken of it.

I have also made two journeys to look up lepers, one beyond the Longberg, and one round Takoon, &c. the report on which I sent in at the end of 1892. Here, again, the natives try to hide the lepers away and will give very meagre information.

The gaol and surrounding buildings are kept in good sanitary condition, and consequently there has been no case of infectious disease during the past year and the general health of the prisoners has been good; cleanliness seems the first consideration, both in the building and the body and clothing of the prisoners.

General vaccination would be a great safeguard against small-pox, for if it were to break out among the natives the mortality would be dreadful, for they are not a very cleanly race.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HARTLEY,
District Surgeon.

MEDICAL REPORT on the GORDONIA DISTRICT for 1892–3.

Upington, April 5, 1893.

The state of health during the past year has been a good one, as well in Upington itself as in the other parts of the Gordonia District; excepted is a measles epidemic, which lasted from June till December 1892. A few cases only, especially amongst adults, were severe, but to my knowledge none of them resulted in death. In consequence of this epidemic a few cases of pneumonia and pleuritis are to be stated as after sicknesses.

The hygienic circumstances of Upington and Keydobis cannot very well be appreciated; much of this derives from the fact that a few people only possess closets.

Well worth mentioning yet is the frequency of syphilis, and the people being left to themselves no limits against the further spreading of this evil can be drawn.

(Signed) D. M. G. MARQUARDS,
District Surgeon of Gordonia.

REPORT of the ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE for 1892–3.

1. In April last the Rev. J. S. Moffat, C.M.G., was appointed an Assistant Commissioner for the Protectorate, and was stationed at Palapye in charge of the northern, while I retained charge of the southern, half of it.

2. No great change has taken place in the state of the territory under my supervision since the date of my last annual report, but the Chiefs appear to be gaining confidence in the Government and frequently refer their disputes to me for settlement.

3. The long-standing dispute between the Chiefs Montsioa and Bathoen, regarding the ownership of the land between the Ramatlabama Spruit and Khorwe, has been settled and a line defined between the two Chiefs.

4. The Chiefs Ikaneng and Pula, who separated last year, are still living apart with their followers, the former at Ramoutsa and the latter at Crocodile Pool. They have occasionally had disputes with each other, but these have always been settled, and the relations between them are now less strained than they were several months ago.

5. During the year the Chiefs Bathoen and Sebele paid a visit to his Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner in Cape Town, and the visit appears to have done them both good.

6. During the period under report the Chief Lenchwe has been very quiet and has not given any trouble.

7. Sechele, for many years the paramount Chief of the Bakwena, died in September last. Mosinye, Chief of the Bakaa, a small tribe living with the Bakwena, also died during the year, and a dispute between two of his sons, as to which of them should be his successor, resulted in their separating from each other, half the tribe staying with the one at their old village at Molepolole, and the remainder going with the other to a place near Mochudi where they are now living. A dispute between them, about a large number of cattle, is still unsettled, but it is receiving attention.

8. A Proclamation, which came into force on 1st January, has been issued under which natives living in the Protectorate can, upon paying 5*s.*, or 2*s.* 6*d.*, according as to whether their guns are breech or muzzle loaders, obtain permits authorizing them to buy a limited quantity of ammunition from persons licensed to sell gunpowder, but up to the present no applications for these permits have been made to me.

9. Owing to the lateness of the rains the natives' crops are very backward this season and the harvest will probably again be a poor one.

Boring for water with a diamond drill has been tried, but up to the present without success.

10. Two of the Chief Bathoen's followers were tried in July last on a charge of murdering an Indian; the one was acquitted and the other found guilty and sentenced to death, but being recommended to mercy the sentence was, I believe, commuted to imprisonment for life.

11. A native who had escaped from gaol in the Transvaal and stolen a horse from that State was arrested at Kanya and handed over to the police there for custody, but the prisoner, possessing himself of the sentry's rifle whilst he was asleep, shot him and escaped, but with the Chief Bathoen's assistance he was recaptured and was afterwards tried for murder, sentenced to death, and executed.

12. During the year 63 criminal cases and 11 civil cases have been tried in my court, but with the exception of the two above mentioned the crimes committed were of a more or less trivial nature.

A small lock-up, which was much needed, has been built at this station. Other public buildings are greatly required.

Detachments of the Bechuanaland Border Police are stationed at several places in the Protectorate, but native police, with a few European constables, would be more useful in the management of the internal affairs of the country.

13. The revenue collected at this office during the year amounted to one thousand and thirteen pounds and one shilling sterling as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Licences, General Traders - -	235	0	0
„ Hawkers - - -	47	0	0
„ Gunpowder - -	57	10	0
„ Liquor - - -	510	0	0
„ Gun - - -	18	0	0
„ Transfer of - -		10	0
Stamps - - - -	93	5	1
Fines and Fees - - -	46	17	3
Stray Stock, Sale of - -	4	18	8
Total - - -	£1,013	1	0

14. At the principal villages religious and educational work is still being carried on by missionaries.

15. So far as I am aware the natives have not in any way interfered with the British South Africa Company's telegraph since the opening of the office at Mochudi in March 1891.

16. I have not heard of any gold or precious stones being found in payable quantity in the Protectorate.

A Commission has been appointed to inquire into and report upon all claims to concessions in this territory and will hold its first sitting here in May next.

(Signed) W. H. SURMON.
Gaberones, 11th April 1893. Assistant Commissioner.

REPORT of the RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, MACLOUTSIE, for 1892–3.

Macloutsie,
7th April 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my report for the year ending 31st March 1893.

Trades.

The revenue from licenses has this year increased from 30*l.* to 80*l.* The holders of licenses are storekeepers who are dependent almost entirely on the members of the Bechuanaland Border Police.

Crimes.

The number of cases during the past year have been as follows :—

Selling liquor - - - - -	2
Perjury - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - -	2
Drunk and disorderly - - - -	1

In addition to the above there was one case of murder, but the accused was acquitted.

Buildings.

One iron and wood building has been added to the township. The store belonging to the Bechuanaland Trading Association was completely destroyed by fire in September, but a new one has since been erected in its place.

A civil gaol and magistrate's court is badly wanted here, there being no building where civil prisoners can be confined.

A rough plan and estimate for a gaol has already been forwarded to the Engineer officer.

Taxes.

Since the institution of the gun tax only six natives have come in to have their guns registered.

Rainfall.

The rainfall during the year has in this district been very slight. There seems every probability of a scarcity of water in the district during the winter.

Cattle.

An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease appeared at the commencement of August. Steps were taken to stop the spread of the disease, by placing all waggons in quarantine some distance away from Macloutsie. The disease appeared to be confined to the main roads and did not affect the cattle in the posts belonging to Khama in the district.

Horse Sickness.

Horse sickness has again been very prevalent here, but not to the same extent as in former years.

I have. &c.

(Signed) S. D. BROWNE, Captain,
Acting Resident Magistrate,
Macloutsie.

REPORT on the BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE for 1892–3.

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The Annual Report of the Bechuanaland Border Police for 1892 to 1893 is compiled from 1st April 1892 to 31st March 1893.

I.—*Strength.*

The strength of the corps on 1st April 1892 was as follows:—

Five troops, consisting of 26 officers, 436 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

These five troops were distributed as follows:—

One troop, consisting of five officers, 123 non-commissioned officers and troopers, was stationed in Bechuanaland.

One troop, consisting of four officers, 86 non-commissioned officers and troopers, was stationed in the Southern Protectorate.

Three troops, consisting of 17 officers, 253 non-commissioned officers and troopers, were stationed in the Northern Protectorate.

According to instructions received from his Excellency the High Commissioner, dated 22nd December 1892, the corps was gradually reduced during January 1893 to 400 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

The present strength of the corps is 25 officers, 370 non-commissioned officers and troopers, distributed as follows:—

One troop, consisting of five officers, 114 non-commissioned officers and troopers, stationed in Bechuanaland.

One troop, consisting of four officers, 73 non-commissioned officers and troopers, stationed in the Southern Protectorate.

Three troops, consisting of 16 officers, 183 non-commissioned officers and troopers, stationed in the Northern Protectorate.

The present distribution of ranks is as follows:—

1	Colonel Commandant.
2	Majors.
5	Captains.
5	Lieutenants.
5	Sub-Lieutenants.
1	Engineer Officer.
2	Surgeons.
1	Captain and Paymaster.
1	Captain and Quartermaster.
1	Lieutenant and Adjutant.
1	Ordnance and Commissariat Officer.
370	Non-commissioned Officers and troopers.
395	Total all ranks.

II.—*Appointments, Promotions, and Resignations.*

The following appointments, promotions, and resignations have taken place during the year.

Lieutenant and Quarter-master C. A. L. Ricketts promoted Captain and Quarter-master, 1st April 1892.

Surgeon Q. Veitch resigns, 3rd August 1892.

Dr. E. C. F. Garroway appointed Surgeon, *vice* Veitch resigned 3rd August 1892.

Captain and Quartermaster C. A. L. Ricketts resigns, 10th October 1892.

Captain J. R. Scott, 3rd Hussars, resigns, 21st October 1892.

F. Molyneux, Esq., appointed Captain and Quarter-master, *vice* Ricketts resigned, 30th October 1892.

Captain R. H. Carr-Ellison, the Royal Dragoons, resigns, 8th November 1892.

Captain and Ordnance and Commissariat Officer C. Goodyear resigns, 31st December 1892.

W. J. Hepworth, Esq., appointed Ordnance and Commissariat Officer, *vice* Goodyear resigned, 1st January 1893.

Major F. W. Panzera appointed Engineer officer, 8th February 1893.

Lieutenant G. Ellis promoted Captain *vice* Carr-Ellison resigned, 13th February 1893.

Sub-Lieutenant J. A. H. Walford promoted Lieutenant, *vice* Ellis promoted, 13th February 1893.

Regimental Sergeant-major G. V. Drury promoted Sub-Lieutenant, *vice* Walford promoted, 13th February 1893.

Lieutenant J. A. H. Walford appointed Adjutant, 13th February 1893.

III.—*Discharges.*

A greater number of men were discharged at the expiration of their service than in former years, owing to a greater number than usual having been attested in 1890, when "K" troop was raised. Many of these men were not allowed to re-engage.

The number of men discharged as medically unfit for service compares favourably with last year, greater care having been taken to select men of good physique.

A greater number of men were discharged by order of the Commanding Officer, being in the majority of cases men of short service who were ill-conducted, or failed to become efficient in their duties.

IV.—*Desertions.*

The following desertions took place during the year :—

One man deserted, 19th May 1892, from a grass-cutting camp near Macloutsie, whilst on stable guard, taking a horse with him. He was pursued to the Selika Wedgraai where the horse was found grazing on the river bank, the deserter having evidently crossed into the Transvaal a few minutes previously.

One man stationed at Mafeking was subpœnaed to attend the Criminal Sessions held at Beaufort West 4th April 1892. He was granted leave to 18th April, but failed to return. He was arrested, however, at Cape Town, 30th July, and taken to Mafeking, where he was tried before the Resident Magistrate, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

One man deserted from Gaberones, 7th June 1892, taking certain articles of clothing. Patrols were sent out, but failed to obtain any tidings of him.

One man deserted from Gaberones, 31st July 1892, taking certain articles of clothing with him. Patrols were sent out without result.

A farrier corporal, who was under arrest, deserted from Gaberones, in company with a trooper, 31st December 1892. Search was made but without result.

V.—*Deaths.*

I regret to report the following deaths :—

Veterinary Sub-Lieutenant Walter Bodilly died at Macloutsie, 21st April 1892.

Trooper E. C. Tame was shot at Kanya, 13th September 1892, by a native prisoner, Adones, who escaped, but was re-captured, tried for the murder, sentenced to death, and executed at Gaberones, 7th January, 1893.

Trooper W. J. Cooper died at Molepolole from dysentery, 24th November 1892.

VI.—*Native Strength.*

The native strength is at present 89 drivers and leaders, and is distributed as follows:—

Bechuanaland	11
Southern Protectorate	6
Northern Protectorate	72

A scheme for supplying water to the camp at head-quarters, by means of a pump, tanks, and pipes, is under consideration. This scheme, if approved, will effect a considerable saving of expenditure under the headings "Natives" and "Transport."

VII.—*Transport Animals and Transport.*

The transport of the corps consists of:—

Waggons	18
Scotch carts	7
Spring carts	3
Water carts	12

The transport animals of the corps on 1st April 1892 consisted of 42 mules and 339 oxen.

During the year six mules have died, and two have been cast, bringing the present strength to 34.

Many of the mules at present on the strength are very old, and past work, some having been doing duty with the police since 1884.

Seventy-seven oxen, some of which were mentioned in the Annual Report for 1891 to 1892 as old and requiring casting, have been sold, and 97 have been bought; 33 oxen died from natural causes during the year, three were accidentally killed, three destroyed, and one lost. The present strength is 319.

VIII.—*Horse Strength.*

The number of horses on the strength of the corps on 31st March 1892 was 241, inadvertently stated in the Annual Report for 1891 to 1892 to be 242.

Since that date 120 have been taken on, 118 having been bought at an average price of 15*l.*, one having been taken on to replace one lost and one to replace a guaranteed salted horse that died.

During the year 133 horses have been struck off, leaving the present strength 228, distributed as follows:—

Bechuanaland	107
Southern Protectorate	27
Northern Protectorate	94

IX.—*Armament.*

The armament of the corps, at the present time, consists of:—

4 7-pounders, R.B.L., of 200 lbs., mounted on colonial field carriages.
2 7-pounders, R.M.L., screw-guns of 400 lbs.
1 7-pounder, naval pattern.
3 Maxim guns.
2 Nordenfeldt guns.
1 Gatling gun, on loan from the Tati Concession Company.

All the foregoing are now at Macloutsie, with the exception of one 7-pounder, naval pattern, two Nordenfeldts, and one Maxim gun, which are at Gaberones.

One 7-pounder, R.B.L., screw-gun of 400 lbs., lent to the corps by the British South Africa Company, has been returned, and one Maxim galloping carriage has been bought from the British South Africa Company.

The two 7-pounder, R.M.L. guns, of 200 lbs., mentioned in the Annual Report for 1891 to 1892 as being on loan to the British South Africa Company, are no longer on the strength of the Bechuanaland Border Police, two 7-pounder R.M.L. guns of 400 lbs. having been given to the corps in exchange.

X.—*Special Employment.*

The usual escort of one non-commissioned officer and four troopers accompanied Mr. J. S. Moffat, C.M.G., the Assistant Commissioner, to Matabeleland in May 1892, and returned to Palapye in June, since which time one non-commissioned officer and two troopers have been kept in attendance on Mr. Moffat, as Acting Resident Commissioner at Palapye.

On 25th November 1892 a party of 10 men were detailed to report themselves at Vryburg, for duty in connexion with the protection of woods and forests in Bechuanaland.

Five mounted men were despatched from head-quarters, 9th December, 1892. This party was recalled from Gaberones, according to instructions received from his Honour the Administrator, 29th December.

A party of five men have been employed on this duty in Bechuanaland since that time.

On 31st December 1892 Lieutenant A. Walsh and two men were sent to Palapye, with the intention of proceeding to Lake Ngami, for which district Lieutenant Walsh was appointed Magistrate. It was, however, considered advisable to delay their departure until the dry season, and they were accordingly recalled on 10th January 1893.

The disease known as "Foot-and-mouth Disease" was reported to exist north of Tuli in August 1892. On 13th August a quarantine station was established at Semilali, to stop all oxen infected with the disease. This station was withdrawn, 26th September 1892.

Shortly afterwards the disease was reported to be at Palapye, and then at Macloutsie, upon which several quarantine stations were established and all Government oxen infected with the disease were sequestrated.

No Government oxen were lost through this disease.

XI.—*Regimental Works.*

The usual work of repairing and thatching the troop huts at head-quarters and at Gaberones has been effected.

In July 1892, a grant of 1,000*l.* was approved for police work at Macloutsie. Since then a number of men have been employed brick-making, quarrying, and building. The engine and circular saw have been continuously employed converting logs into posts and rafters.

On the visit of Mr. Harpur, the Foreman of Works, in December, the plan of the new barracks was decided upon, and foundations were laid for two troop huts and an officers' mess hut, which are now in course of erection.

There has been some difficulty in obtaining skilled masons and bricklayers in the corps, such men commanding good wages elsewhere.

A skilled bricklayer was sent up in January, since which time building has progressed more rapidly.

Up to date the following buildings have been completed at head-quarters :—

A grain shed has been erected at the stables, a gun shed in the Fort, an artificers' shed, and the stables have been enlarged. A guard-room and cell has also been built near the Fort.

The Fort has been divided into two parts in order to facilitate defence, the number of men at head-quarters, or the number likely to be left at head-quarters in the event of any native disturbance being inadequate to successfully defend it in its former condition.

Lightning conductors have been erected at Macloutsie and at Gaberones.

The following roads have been cut or re-opened :—

A new road has been cut to the western end of the Lipokole Hills.

A direct road has been cut through the Lipokole Hills to strike the Shashi at the junction of the Semokue River.

The old Matabele Road, from Grobelaar's Cross Roads to the Semokue River Junction, has been re-opened.

At Gaberones a bridge has been built over the Notwani River, a forage store has been erected, and troop huts re-thatched and rebuilt.

At many out-stations in the Southern Protectorate good stabling has been put up and the men's huts improved.

Huts have been built at nearly all out-stations in Bechuanaland.

The Mafeking Barracks, to accommodate 40 men, were completed in June 1892.

Stabling for 40 horses has been erected at Mafeking and quarters for the Officer Commanding the Detachment at Vryburg.

The Head-quarter House at Mafeking has been re-roofed and improved.

XII.—*Moves.*

In July 1892 "K" troop, which had been stationed in the Southern Protectorate since August 1890, shortly after it was raised, was relieved by "G" Troop from Macloutsie. This relief was completed 25th August 1892.

XIII.—*Out-stations.*

The following out-stations have been occupied during the past year.

In the Northern Protectorate, Selika, Palapye, and Grobellar's Cross Roads. A station was formed at Semilali in August 1892, to enforce the quarantine regulations during the foot-and-mouth disease epidemic. This station was withdrawn 29th September 1892.

In the Southern Protectorate, Ramoutsa, Molepolole, Kanya, Mochudi, Sequani, and Palla.

In Bechuanaland, Vryburg, Gordonia, Taungs, Setlagoli, Schaappfontein, Geneva, Kuruman, Tueeling's Pan, Mouquene, Pitsani, Ramatlabama, Longberg, Dry Hartz, and Mosete.

XIV.—*Patrol.*

Constant patrols have been carried out both in Bechuanaland and the Protectorate.

XV.—*Health.*

I attach a report from the Medical Officer at Macloutsie.*

It will be noticed that at Macloutsie the number of cases of fever are considerably in excess of last year.

These cases nearly all occurred during the months of February and March 1893, and were mostly slight. It is difficult to account for this outbreak of fever, as the country was dry at the time and very little rain had fallen previously.

The services of the nurses at Macloutsie have been invaluable, and their constant care and attendance on the sick has conduced greatly to their recovery.

At Gaberones few cases have occurred, the station being a very healthy one.

In Bechuanaland the men of the Bechuanaland Border Police have been treated by the District Surgeons when necessary. The health of the men in that district has been excellent.

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* Not printed.

Dr. Vigne's duties at Macloutsie have been very heavy, and they have been carried out entirely to my satisfaction.

Dr. Garraway, at Gaberones, has performed his duties very satisfactorily.

XVI.—*Arrests and Convictions.*

During the year 233 arrests have been made and 157 convictions obtained. In 18 cases of trading without licenses no conviction was obtained, but the defendants were required to take out licenses.

XVII.—*Summary.*

I consider the results, generally, of the past year to be satisfactory. I consider the efficiency of the corps to have increased, but I am of opinion that it would be still further increased if men were enrolled for four years instead of two years, as at present.

(Signed) F. W. CARRINGTON, Colonel,
Commanding Bechuanaland Border Police.

Macloutsie,
8th April 1893.

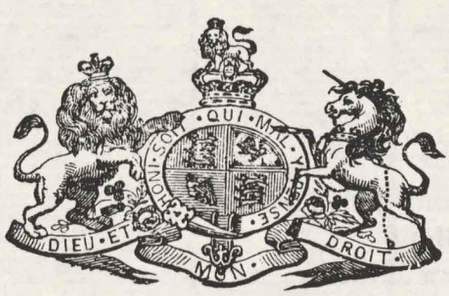
No. 71.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 39.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-21.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889&'90
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 71.

BERMUDA.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 39.]

Governor LYONS to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

MY LORD MARQUESS, Bermuda, March 30, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. C. LYONS,
Lieut.-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
Downing Street.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,
SIR, Bermuda, March 29, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1892 :—

Finance.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 33,955*l.* and the expenditure to 31,644*l.*, the excess of revenue over expenditure thus being 2,311*l.* Compared with 1891 the revenue shows an increase of 424*l.* and the expenditure a decrease of 385*l.*

The expenditure returns, however, in 1891, included a sum of 1,120*l.* applied in the reduction of the public debt, whereas in 1892 only 500*l.* was so applied. In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan (1,000*l.*) and expended during the year are not included.

BERMUDA. 1892.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1892 with that of 1891:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1891 - - - -	27,839	5,692	33,531
1892 - - - -	28,263	5,692	33,955
Increase - - -	424	—	424

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1891 - - - -	15,447	16,582	32,029
1892 - - - -	17,199	14,445	31,644
Increase - - -	1,752	—	—
Decrease - - -	—	2,137	385

In the Blue Book report for 1891 it was pointed out that the revenue raised in that year showed an increase compared with 1890 of over 1,750*l.*, whilst 1890 showed an increase compared with 1889 of nearly 2,500*l.*, and the prosperity of the years 1890 and 1891, indicated by these figures, was stated to be due nearly entirely to the following causes:—

(1.) The presence of an additional battalion of infantry in these islands during the greater part of those years;
(2.) The remunerative prices obtained during 1890 and 1891 for the agricultural products of these islands; and
(3.) The increasing popularity of these islands as a place of winter resort for the people of the United States.

Now in 1892, as above stated, the revenue showed a further slight increase, and this in spite of the fact that the additional battalion of infantry was withdrawn from the garrison in the autumn of 1891, that the prices obtained for the agricultural products of these islands in the New York market were not so remunerative as those obtained in 1890 and 1891, and that there was not an unusual amount of business done in connexion with distressed vessels. So that the only conclusion I can arrive at to

account for the prosperity in 1892 indicated by the revenue returns, is the increasing popularity of these islands amongst the inhabitants of the North American Continent taken in conjunction with the recent tariff legislation in the United States, which would seem to tend to induce the citizens of that country, when visiting such places as Bermuda, to take the opportunity of replenishing their wardrobes.

Compared with 1891 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Colonial Surveyor's Office, an increase of	1,147
Agricultural „	185
Administration of justice „	202
Annuities and gratuities „	185
Pilotage „	110
Public health „	159
Whilst in—	
Agriculture there was a decrease of	171
Payment of public debt „	620
Miscellaneous payments „	785
Post Office „	938

The increase under the heading of "The Colonial Surveyor's Office" is due to additional expenditure on roads and works.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military establishments	91,375

Compared with the preceding year the latter return shows a decrease of 13,090*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishments is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. Though 500*l.* was paid off during the year, the public debt was increased from 8,600*l.* to 9,100*l.* This increase is due to the fact that 1,000*l.* worth of debentures had to be issued to provide for the completion of the new Government House.

The public debt at the end of 1892 was made up as follows:—

	£
Causeway debentures	1,000
New Government House debentures	8,000

These loans are held locally, and the average rate of interest on them is 4½ per cent.

The Causeway Debentures were issued in 1871, the amount of the original liability incurred being 19,830*l.*, all of which has been repaid with the exception of the 1,000*l.* above referred to, which will be repaid on the 1st April next.

The new Government House loan is repayable by instalments of 500*l.* annually; 11,600*l.* was borrowed on this account.

BERMUDA. 1892.

The Legislature has lately authorized the Government to borrow 40,000*l.* in connexion with a proposed improvement of certain of the ship channels in this Colony, the amount to be raised either locally or in England by the issue of inscribed stock to be repaid at a date to be fixed upon when issuing the stock, such date not being later than 31 years from the date of issue. Provision is made for the creation of a sinking fund by the investment of 1,000*l.* annually, the first instalment to become payable in London 3½ years from the date of the issue of the stock.

Legislation.

6. The regular session of 1891 which, commenced on May 28th in that year, did not close till February 15th, 1892.

The Acts passed in 1892 in this session do not call for any special notice.

Besides this there were three sessions held in 1892. The first commenced on the 25th March, and lasted about a month, during which period two Acts were passed, namely :—

"An Act to declare the terms and conditions applicable to loans authorised to be raised out of these islands by the Government of Bermuda and to provide for the creation of Bermuda Inscribed Stock;" and,

"An Act prescribing the mode of raising a loan of 40,000*l.* for the improvement of the West End Channels."

The second session commenced on May 27th and was prorogued on September 5th, the local Parliament being convened for a third time in the year on the 12th September in order to afford the Legislature an opportunity of reconsidering a measure to continue the Board of Works Acts, which had failed in the previous session to become law.

During the second session nine Acts were passed and during the third seven in 1892.

Of the Acts passed in these two sessions only four would appear to require notice here, namely; "An Act to make provisions "for the voluntary enlistment of a Bermuda militia force and for "the maintenance, regulation, and discipline thereof;"

"An Act for making provisions for raising a volunteer infantry force in these islands;"

"An Act for the enrolment of coast volunteers;" and

"An Act to continue the Board of Works Act"

The three first mentioned of these Acts were introduced in compliance with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government. Their object is sufficiently indicated by their titles. Though no provision was inserted in any of these measures which would involve the Colony in any expense, the House of Assembly, in accordance with its nearly invariable practice, inserted in every one of them

a duration clause whereby the Acts, unless renewed, will expire on the last day of December 1900.

With regard to "The Act to continue the Board of Works Act," the failure of the Legislature to pass this measure in the second session rendered it necessary, as I have already stated, to prorogue and convene the Legislature for a third session, when this measure was passed.

The complications arising under a system of putting short duration clauses to legislative measures are well exemplified in this case. The Legislature, having already authorised the Board of Public Works to carry out a work by contract, which could not be completed before the date of the expiration of the Acts constituting the Board, then refused to renew the Acts relating to the Board with a duration sufficiently long to admit of the Board fulfilling obligations which would be imposed on it by the contract in question.

During the year 21 Resolves were passed appropriating 6,232*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

Civil Establishment.

7. Colonel S. Pym, R.A., acted as the Governor's Deputy from the 1st to 8th of January, while General Newdegate was absent on a tour of inspection of Her Majesty's Forces in the West Indies.

General Newdegate left the Colony on the 23rd June, on the termination of his service, and Colonel Pym administered the Government from that date to the 17th July, when General Lyons arrived in the Colony and assumed the Government.

Mr. Claude W. McCallan was appointed on the 19th May to fill the office of Clerk in the Colonial Post Office, which was created by the Act to amend the Post Office Establishment Act passed in Session II. of 1891–2.

There were no other changes of any importance in the Civil Establishment during the year.

Imports.

8. Imports are at present valued in this Colony at the invoiced price of the goods as they lie at the port of shipment, exclusive of the cost of packages and other charges.

The total value of the imports as thus ascertained (exclusive of coin and bullion valued at 340*l.*) was 328,943*l.*, showing an increase compared with 1891 of 2,967*l.*, with 1890 of 20,937*l.* and with 1889 of 56,340*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1891 and 1892 is shown in the following table:—

	1891.	1892.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	85,775	88,056
British North America - -	22,031	25,604
Other British Colonies - -	8,511	10,321
United States of America - -	205,906	202,566
Other countries - - -	3,753	2,396
Totals - - -	325,976	328,943

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1892 were clothing, valued at 5,805*l.*, cotton, woollen, and silk goods, valued at 26,020*l.*, jewellery and plated ware at 2,053*l.*, hardware at 2,122*l.*, leather manufactures at 3,659*l.*, oilmen's stores at 5,412*l.*, and malt liquor at 16,640*l.*

Exports.

9. The value of the exports in 1892 amounted (exclusive of specie valued at 7,727*l.*) to 107,728*l.*

Compared with 1891 this shows a decrease of 22,075*l.*, with 1890 a decrease of 29,798*l.*, with 1889 an increase of 47,339*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1891 and 1892:—

	1891.	1892.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	1,794	2,473
British Colonies - - - -	3,457	2,516
United States of America - - -	123,259	101,164
Other countries - - - -	1,293	1,575
Total - - - -	129,803	107,728

The crop for the season 1892 was a fairly good one but the prices obtained in the New York market were on the whole not so high as in the years 1890 and 1891. It is to this cause that the falling off in the value of the exports is due.

Population and Public Health.

10. The Registrar-General estimated the civilian population of these islands at the end of 1892 at 15,290, comprising 5,803 white (2,816 males and 2,987 females), and 9,487 coloured persons (4,387 males and 5,100 females).

The birth-rate was 35·97 and the death-rate 23·3 per 1,000. Of the births amongst the white population 1·6 per cent. were illegitimate and amongst the coloured 23·4 per cent. The proportion of deaths of infants in the first year of life to registered living births, or the infantile mortality, was 15·9 per 100, compared with 16·5 in the preceding year.

The year 1892 appears to have been an unfavourable one to aged persons in this community, especially to women, 53 of the deaths being returned as those of persons 75 years of age and upwards, 38 being women. The average annual mortality of persons over 75 years of age in the preceding 10 years, 1882–91, having been 39, 25 being women.

Influenza was more or less prevalent in the spring and midsummer of 1891, but since then it can hardly be said to have prevailed in an epidemic form, so that it appears to be doubtful whether that disease is accountable for the increased death rate amongst aged persons in 1892.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in these islands in 1892 was 2,913 and the deaths were 15, the rate of mortality thus being 5·1 per 1,000. Of these deaths, eight were due to enteric fever, and two to gunshot wounds (self inflicted).

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military Forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of the garrison 1,363; number of admissions to hospital per 1,000 of strength 504·77. Number of deaths 10, six enteric fever, one pneumonic phthisis, one dilatation of heart, and two gunshot wounds; average number daily sick, 34·75; average sick time to each soldier, 9·33 [days ?]; average duration of each case of sickness, 18·49 [days ?]. Average strength of officers, 56; number of cases of sickness, 20; one death from enteric fever.

The principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the mean daily strength of the Naval Forces at Bermuda, corrected for the period that each vessel remained at the port during the year 1892, was 1,550; an increase of 75 as compared with the previous twelve months. The number of cases treated was 717, a diminution of 72 as compared with the previous year. This he accounts for by the cessation of the prevalence of influenza and the absence of any other form of epidemic disease.

Criminal Statistics.

11. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 392, an increase compared with the preceding year of 15.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 356, of whom 189 were summarily convicted, 71 acquitted, 53 discharged, and 43 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 189 persons summarily convicted, 127 were fined, 12 were imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 40 were peremptorily imprisoned, and 10 were bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-three cases were tried in the superior courts during the year and the convictions numbered 14; of these, one was for attempt at murder, six were for other offences against the person, and seven were for offences against property.

Gaols and Prisoners.

12. The number of persons confined in the gaols in 1892 was 118 (106 men and 12 women); of these 59 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 59 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

13. Five patients (two males and three females) were admitted into the asylum during the year, and two (one male and one female) were discharged. There was one death.

Education.

14. The Inspector of Schools gives the following returns:—21 aided primary schools; 1,162 scholars (587 boys and 575 girls); school fees, 472*l.*; Government contributions, 980*l.* These schools are under the direction of the Board of Education and the constant supervision of the Inspector of Schools. Fifteen of them are attended exclusively by coloured children under coloured teachers. The school fee paid by the children in all of them is 6*d.* per week. In them are taught the elementary subjects of instruction, together with needlework, Bible reading, and the elements of grammar and geography.

There are besides 25 other primary schools in the Colony receiving no Government aid.

The secondary aided schools numbered two, receiving between them Government contributions amounting to 203*l.* and school fees amounting to 112*l.* The number of scholars in these schools was 69, 50 boys and 19 girls.

There are, besides, other secondary schools receiving no Government aid.

Government House.

15. The new Government House, which has cost the Colony about 14,000*l.*, was completed in June and the old house was subsequently pulled down.

Meteorological Observations.

16. The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above the sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·112 inches; mean temperature of the air, 68·7°; mean relative humidity, 75·2 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·9 miles; total amount of rainfall, 66·46 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 14 years, + 8·86. Rain fell on 158 days.

General.

17. It is generally believed here that the high import duties recently imposed on the agricultural products of these islands by the United States are injurious to this Colony; but, whether this is the case or not, from what has been indicated in this report under the heading of "Finance" it would appear that the recent tariff leglisation in that country, taken as a whole, has not been injurious to the Colony; though there is practically no poverty in the Colony there is little realized wealth.

For many years past the value of its imports has always largely exceeded the value of its exports. Even in the most prosperous years, from an agricultural point of view, its imports have always been considerably more than double the value of its exports. The Colony must therefore be becoming less and less dependent on agriculture, and, though agriculture may be an important factor in its future prosperity, there are other lines along which it has and is continuing to advance.

This is beginning to be realized here and I cannot help feeling that the Legislature of this Colony moved in the right direction when it authorized an expenditure of 40,000*l.* for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour.

I may mention that the company whose ships now ply between here and New York have given the Colonial Government to understand that they intend to enter into a contract for building a steamer which will be able to perform the voyage between this Colony and New York in about 45 hours, instead of 70 as at present, as soon as the Colonial Government have concluded the contract for deepening these channels, and the result of this will certainly be to increase considerably the popularity of these islands as a winter resort, the greatest drawback at present being the time occupied inthe voyage between here and New York, and the unpleasantness of the passage in comparatively small steamers during the winter months.

There are indications also which lead one to hope that when these contemplated channel improvements are completed direct communication between these islands and the mother country may be established, at any rate in the winter season, which would no doubt prove advantageous not only to the Colony but to many delicate persons to whom the English climate in winter is injurious, and to some of whom, at any rate, I believe this climate would be more beneficial than the Madeiras.

Statistical Returns.

18. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1891 - - -	7,106	8,017	15,123
1892 - - -	7,203	8,087	15,290

	1891.	1892.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	33,531	33,955
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	32,029	31,643
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	2,448	1,219
Customs revenue - - - - -	27,839	28,262
Public debt - - - - - -	8,600	9,100
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	287,694	348,576
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	242,530	325,276
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	45,164	23,300
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	38,619	34,362
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	249,075	314,214
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie in 1892)	325,976	329,283
Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	—	340
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie in 1892) - - -	92,739	88,056
Value of total exports (including specie in 1892)	137,526	115,455
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	—	7,727
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie in 1892) - - -	1,794	2,473

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General Thomas Casey Lyons, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

No. 60.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 33.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
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1893.

[C.—6857.-10.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
27	Mauritius	1890
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 60.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 33.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, October 11, 1892.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1891.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1891.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony during the year 1891 amounted to Rs. 17,962,710 and the expenditure to Rs. 16,435,079.

The figures for the last two years were—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1889 - - - -	15,299,877	14,906,281
1890 - - - -	16,228,768	15,316,223

Revenue.

2. The above figures show an increase of no less than Rs. 1,733,942 over the Revenue of 1890, which in its turn exceeded that of 1889 by over Rs. 900,000. Under almost every head of revenue, increased returns are shown, the most noticeable items being railway receipts, which show an increase of Rs. 588,175, Customs Rs. 271,614, and licenses Rs. 143,654; port and harbour dues show an increase of Rs. 50,127, and stamps of Rs. 30,242. The pearl fishery realised no less than Rs. 961,541, being an

increase over 1890 of Rs. 646,090. This fishery was the most successful one held for more than half a century. It is feared, however, that for some years to come this head of Revenue is likely to remain blank. The small decrease of Rs. 5,337 under the head Land Revenue is due to the abolition of the tax on dry grain, which resulted in a decrease of Rs. 53,111 under the sub-head. Most of the other sub-heads show an increase, and the total decrease is therefore small. The Auditor-General's report of May 24, 1892, explains in detail the increases and decreases of revenue under the other sub-heads The figures generally indicate a considerable measure of prosperity and continued expansion of trade.

Expenditure.

3. The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1890 was Rs. 1,118,855.

4. Of this sum only Rs. 41,765 is put down against establishments, and is chiefly due to increase of staff and periodical increments earned by officers in the railway department. The additional provision under this head is Rs. 33,133—an addition obviously necessary in view of the enormous increase in the revenue of the railway department. The Medical Department shows an increase in cost of establishments of Rs. 16,479, due to additions to the staff and to employment of private practitioners in times of epidemic disease, and the Post and Telegraphs of Rs. 10,025, also due to increments and additions to staff consequent on extension of business. Savings were effected in many departments, notably the Police, Special Commissioner for Registration of Titles to Land, and Grain Commission. The total increase was under one per cent. of the whole cost of establishments, which amounts to Rs. 4,897,201.

5. Under the head Services Exclusive of Establishments, the increase is Rs.1,077,090, as against an increase of Rs. 333,284 in 1890. The main items of increase are Military Expenditure Rs. 415,893, due to the augmented contribution levied in 1891; Railway Services Rs. 200,754, due to increased traffic, expenditure incurred on new works and buildings, and low rates of exchange at the time of payment of interest; and Miscellaneous Services Rs. 132,133, principally due to the cost of the Census. Other considerable increases are Lands taken for Government purposes Rs. 81,204, mainly due to the cost of land acquired for preserving the water supply of Uva; Colombo Harbour Rs. 59,557, due to increase of dredging and cost of a new launch; Interest Rs. 56,574; Hospitals and Sanitation Rs. 49,050; Works and Buildings Rs. 42,539; and Education Rs. 31,501.

6. The increased expenditure on Public Works, Roads, Streets, and Bridges, Colombo Harbour, Hospitals and Sanitation, Education, and Lands taken for Public purposes may be considered productive expenditure, and of direct advantage to the inhabitants of Ceylon.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

7. The following table shows the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1892, as compared with January 1, 1891 :—

Assets.				Liabilities.			
1891.		1892.		1891.		1892.	
Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
11,484,674	59	12,985,784	59	9,580,294	49	10,244,698	21
		Excess of assets -		1,904,380	10	2,741,086	38
				11,484,674	59	12,985,784	59

PUBLIC DEBT.

8. The debt of the Colony on January 1, 1892, amounted to 2,501,759*l.* as against 2,492,484*l.* in sterling, and Rs. 335,839, as against Rs. 345,301 on January 1, 1891.

9. The amount paid off on account of the various sterling loans was 142,584*l.*, and on account of the silver loan was Rs. 29,610.

10. An additional sum of 37,000*l.* was raised on account of the Haputalé and Bentota Railway Extensions in 1891 under Ordinance 7 of 1888.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

11. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1891 was Rs. 125,435,167, as against Rs. 114,219,279, thus:—

	1890.		1891.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	63,091,939	13	66,635,392	36
Exports - - - - -	51,127,339	90	58,799,744	31
Total - - - -	114,219,279	03	125,435,136	67

Or deducting specie :—

	1890.		1891.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	56,469,585	13	59,036,657	86
Exports - - - - -	50,181,919	11	58,305,601	31
Total - - - -	106 651,504	24	117,342,259	17

CEYLON. 1891.

12. The gross customs revenue for 1891 was Rs. 4,203,320·19, which, compared with 1890, the highest previous amount recovered shows an increase of Rs. 254,756, and compared with 1889 an, increase of Rs. 485,168.

13. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1890 as follows:—

Imports.

——		1890.	1891.
Rice - - -	bushels	6,350,036	7,051,432
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	5,858,325	5,573,387
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	„	1,206,169	1,395,156
Metals and metalware -	„	1,889,520	1,855,950
Coal and coke - -	tons	303,896	332,749
Specie - - -	Rs.	6,339,285	7,598,734
Machinery - -	„	749,180	951,965

Exports.

——		1890.	1891.
Coffee - - -	cwts.	90,091	89,673
Cinchona - -	lbs.	8,779,140	5,589,550
Tea - - -	„	45,799,518	67,718,371
Cacao - - -	cwts.	15,942	20,015
Cardamons -	lbs.	395,576	408,866
Cocoanut products :—			
Cocoanuts - -	No.	12,444,070 and bags 135	7,421,643 and bags 611
Coir stuffs - -	cwts.	124,330 and pkgs. 662	150,263
Cocoanut oil - -	„	368,725	426,669
Copperah - -	„	156,193	68,907
Arrack - -	gals.	103,931	101,378
Cinnamon - -	lbs.	2,345,564	2,810,098
Citronella oil - -	ozs.	13,785,098	12,139,814
Plumbago - -	cwts.	392,577	400,540
Tobacco - - -	„	55,301	41,428
Malt liquor - -	gals.	43,611	3,936

SHIPPING.

14. The shipping returns for the island show a slight decrease in numbers but a considerable increase in tonnage:—

	1890.		1891.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,566	2,576,019	3,461	2,857,919
Cleared - -	3,586	2,541,883	3,450	2,839,021
Total -	7,152	5,117,902	6,911	5,696,940

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

15. The expenditure on works for 1891 amounted to Rs. 105,245.

16. The following is the statement of revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1891 :—

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.
Colombo Harbour dues - -	618,962	0
Pilotage - - - -	45,120	0
Rent of reclamation ground -	8,296	45
Sundries - - - -	2,253	5
Single rent - - - -	147,799	20
Rent of wharf and warehouse -	6,000	0
Total - -	828,430	80
Principal paid off to Public Works Loan Commissioners - -	94,780	75
Sinking fund - - -	65,513	60
	160,294	35

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Public Works Loan Commissioners, on account of interest - -	97,395	19
Interest on debentures - -	274,859	78
Master attendant - - -	85,006	92
Director of public works - -	33,731	34
Principal Collector of Customs -	4,037	11
Engineer of works - - -	179,456	4
Inspector-General of Police -	7,119	13
Principal Civil Medical Officer -	719	19
Balance at credit - - -	146,106	10
Total - -	828,430	8
Balance - - - -	146,106	10
Amount at debit - - -	14,188	25
	160,294	35

Though the receipts considerably exceeded the expenditure, including charges for interests, yet they were insufficient to entirely meet the amount due on account of sinking fund, and had to be supplemented from general revenue.

17. The usual series of observations made over the Breakwater after the south-west monsoon showed that no material change had taken place in the condition of the structure.

18. A new hopper dredger has been ordered and is expected shortly. The dredger Merak, which broke down, has been recently under examination with a view to being repaired. In the inner harbour dredging was carried on throughout the year by the Priestman's grab dredger.

PUBLIC WORKS.

19. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1891 amounted to Rs. 3,316,111, as compared with Rs. 3,376,583 in 1890, thus showing a decrease of Rs. 60,472.

The expenditure was thus divided:—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies - - - -	338,357	97
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - - -	1,272,596	23
Repairs to buildings - - - -	177,535	44
Departmental charges and miscellaneous	237,488	4
New works and buildings - - -	255,240	67
Alterations and additions - - -	131,521	33
New roads and additions to roads -	320,395	40
New bridges - - - - -	130,497	33
Irrigation works - - - -	452,478	82
Total - -	3,316,111	23

20. 3,212·34 miles of roads were maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,055,823·24. A steam-roller was imported in December last, but it is too soon to pronounce a definite opinion as to its cost as compared with animal power. Consolidation is, however, much more rapid, and a better-shaped road is obtained.

21. The Colombo harbour foreshore works were continued during 1891. By the erection of a temporary jail on the reclamation ground, much waste of labour in marching convicts to and from jail has been saved.

The Véyangoda-Attanagalla road in the Kelani Valley made good progress, and will be opened to Ruwanwella by the end of the present year.

Another large section of the North road was metalled, and in the Eastern Province the Coast road was the principal work in the Province.

22. Large bridges over the Attanagalu-oya and Gurugoda-oya were begun in 1891, and the important Kurugammodara bridge is now nearly completed.

23. Under the head Works and Buildings the principal is the new General Post and Telgraph Office, estimated to cost Rs. 270,000. The work is to be undertaken departmentally, and a commencement was made at the end of the year. Amongst other works the new export jetties at Galle and Colombo were completed, the Badulla hospital was finished, and a new kachchéri was begun.

24. As regards irrigation works progress was made with the Deduru-oya scheme, in the North-Western Province. The Kirilapone flood-outlet advanced another stage in the erection of a new bridge with 50-ft. waterway and irrigation work was continued on the Walawé-gagṇa scheme in the Southern Province, the Kumbukkan-ár in the province of Uva, and Uggalkaltota in the province of Sabaragamuwa.

25. Artesian well-boring apparatus was obtained from America, and it is intended to experiment with it in Negombo, Mannár, and other places. This branch of engineering is new to Ceylon.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

26. The expenditure of the Department for 1891 amounted to Rs. 422·740, as compared with Rs. 406,272 in 1890.

27. The total revenue from land sales was Rs. 304,456, or an increase of Rs. 72,487 on the revenue of 1890.

28. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1891 was 15,391 acres. Of these 3,328 acres were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 20·36, an increase of Rs. 2·98 on the 1890 rate. 12,063 acres were purchased by natives at the rate of Rs. 17·44 per acre, an increase of Rs. 2·15 per acre on the rates obtained in 1890.

29. The work of the Department was, as usual, of a very varied character. It included irrigation, forest, cadastral, village boundary, harbour, archæological, road and river, and miscellaneous surveys. Officers of the department were also employed under the chief resident engineer in tracing the lines of railway extension from Haputalé towards Bandárawela and from Polgahawela to Kurunégala.

RAILWAY.

30. The receipts in 1891 amounted to Rs. 4,429,243 as compared with Rs. 3,862,313, thus showing an increase of Rs. 566,930.

The expenditure was Rs. 1,951,456, as compared with Rs. 1,722,755 during 1890.

The net profit was thus Rs. 2,477,787, or 6·6 per cent. on the capital cost of construction.

31. The approximate results for the years 1890 and 1891 of each section of the railway are as follows :—

—	Main Line.		Náwalapitiya Line.		Nánu-oya Line.		Mátalé Line.		Coast Line.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
Receipts	Rs. 2,303,439	Rs. 2,642,576	Rs. 373,692	Rs. 430,075	Rs. 680,800	Rs. 782,003	Rs. 100,503	Rs. 116,152	Rs. 403,879	Rs. 458,437
Expenditure	800,034	932,393	146,136	158,583	363,169	383,002	99,391	104,680	314,025	372,798
Profit -	1,503,405	1,710,183	227,556	271,492	317,631	399,001	1,112	11,472	89,854	85,639

32. The coast line is the only section which shows a decrease in the profit earned as compared with the previous year. The reason assigned is the increase in cost of locomotive power owing to renewal of boilers and use of coals as fuel owing to failure of wood supply. It is satisfactory to note continued improvement in the Mátalé section, which had up to 1890 been worked at a loss.

33. The abnormal rainfall of the year caused many slips, resulting in a complete stoppage of through traffic for six days in October.

34. The extensions towards Haputalé and Galle were proceeded with during the year, and both are expected to be open during the course of next year.

LEGISLATION.

35. Twenty-three Ordinances were passed in 1891, all of which received Her Majesty's confirmation. Ordinance No. 18 of 1890, relating to Chanks, which had been disallowed pending certain explanations, was duly confirmed. The most important of the Ordinances were those permitting the conditional release of first offenders in certain cases, relating to cattle disease, consolidating and amending the Licensing Ordinances of 1873 and 1877, relating to arrack, rum, and toddy, rendering more accurate and complete the registration of deaths, and relating to the registration of titles to land and of all deeds affecting land in this Colony.

VITAL STATISTICS.

36. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the five years 1887 to 1891 in the island generally, and in the different provinces:—

Province.	Births to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
CEYLON -	32·7	31·8	27·7	31·9	31·5
Western - -	31·2	31·5	25·4	27·3	30·1
Central - -	29·0	29·7	24·9	28·3	29·5
Northern - -	35·8	32·9	27·5	33·1	32·1
Southern - -	32·4	32·2	28·5	32·6	31·3
Eastern - -	43·9	44·1	38·0	48·1	38·9
North-Western -	41·1	36·1	33·4	39·8	33·7
North Central -	44·4	41·9	38·1	52·7	42·1
Uva - - -	32·1	30·1	28·0	40 0	40·3
Sabaragamuwa -	30·0	30·6	31·6	31·6	30·0

(*continued.*)

Province.	Deaths to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
CEYLON -	24·0	26·5	28·6	23·1	28·5
Western - -	22·8	20·1	20·1	15·6	20·0
Central - -	22·2	27·0	25·1	26·0	28·5
Northern - -	19·9	23·3	32·7	22.5	23·3
Southern - -	21·2	23·8	24·3	21·5	32·6
Eastern - -	22·5	35·3	40·5	25·7	31·2
North-Western -	32·2	27·6	48·9	31·7	40·7
North Central -	31·9	46·3	42·5	37·3	34·5
Uva - - -	33·0	37·9	28·9	32·8	41·7
Sabaragamuwa -	30·0	33·5	35·9	29·1	29·6

The births exceeded the deaths by 9,750 as compared with an excess of 26,506 in 1890, which was, however, unusually large.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

37. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 103,149 and the departures to 60,042, being an excess of arrivals of 43,107, as against an excess in 1890 of 38,350, which was the greatest increase since the Indian famine years 1876–1877.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

38. The general health of the people in the year has been very unsatisfactory. With the exception of the Districts of Jaffna and Anurádhapura, all the others show a higher mortality than usual. The increased death-rates from fever and diarrhæal diseases account chiefly for the unhealthiness of the island in 1891.

39. Cholera was again widely spread during the year. 2,579 cases with 1,545 deaths were reported, as against 1,247 cases with 663 deaths in 1890. The severest outbreak was at Trincomalee, where there were 399 cases with 300 deaths. No cases were reported in the Western or Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

40. There was a considerable increase in the mortality from small-pox— 1,882 cases with 421 deaths, as against 750 cases and 658 deaths in the previous year.

41. The following table shows the total number of persons vaccinated in 1890 and 1891 :—

——	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1890 - -	128,008	106,043	16,591	82·84	9,145	6,579	71·94
1891 - -	149,552	123,217	18,894	82·40	34,543	22,591	65·40

42. The subjoined table gives the comparative number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1890 and 1891 :—

——	1890.	1891.
Civil Hospitals, including Field or Parangi Hospitals.	32	35
Medical Aid - - - -	10	11
Immigrant - - - - -	6	7
Dispensaries (Civil) - - - -	127	152
Lying-in Hospital - - - -	1	1
Asylums - - - - -	2	2

The death-rate of the total sick population in all the hospitals and asylums in 1891 was ·86 per cent. higher than in 1890.

43. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 786,465·44 as against Rs. 706,708·84 in 1890. Deducting the receipts from paying patients and collections at outdoor dispensaries the net expenditure was Rs. 753,797·04 as against Rs. 679,660·56 in 1890.

44. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1891 - - -	185,567	32
Receipts from estates - -	50,655	67
Export duty - - -	78,979	19
Deficit - - -	55,932	46
Total -	185,567	32

The deficit in 1890 was Rs. 58,812·85.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

45. Timber was supplied to the Public Works, Railway Extension (for sleepers), and Telegraph Department (for telegraph posts), as well as to private purchasers. Large sales of ebony and satinwood took place at the Central Depôt, Colombo. The very wet weather which prevailed in 1891 greatly impeded forest operations of every description.

Firewood was supplied mainly to the Railway Department for the use of the locomotives, but the Public Works Department took also small quantities in the Western, Northern, and Uva Provinces.

46. The expenditure exceeded the amount credited to revenue by Rs. 31,169·55. This result was principally caused by large plantation and demarcation work. It is anticipated that the year 1892 will be more profitable.

47. During the year, 475·5 acres of fresh plantations were formed, consisting both of artificial reproduction of existing species, and of experimental plantations. The Para rubber plantation in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, has so far been very successful.

48. Forest settlement work continued throughout the year, but the only final Proclamation establishing a reserve that was issued was for a forest of 782 acres in the North-Western Province.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

49. The number of cases instituted and of persons charged before police magistrates during the past five years compares as follows:—

	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1887 - - - -	48,755	89,395	17,710
1888 - - - -	54,952	104,179	23,872
1889 - - - -	51,896	91,434	22,612
1890 - - - -	59,542	104,467	28,467
1891 - - - -	58,486	102,930	29,628

50. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the last five years:—

	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206
1890 - -	589	453	422	310
1891 - -	467	341	220	163

583 fewer persons were tried in the higher courts in 1891 than in 1890.

51. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1887 -	134	27	40	67	24
1888 -	116	34	48	46	23
1889 -	138	43	38	56	36
1890	180	39	46	59	25
1891 -	108	55	10	—	17

52. These figures would seem to point to a diminution in serious crime, for though the convictions for murder were more numerous than in the previous four years, the executions were fewer than in any previous year of the quinquennial period.

The increased strictness of jail discipline may possibly account for this diminution in serious crime, but it would be premature to express a decided opinion on this point.

EDUCATION.

53. During the year under review there was a net increase of 7,391 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1891 being 153,843, as against 146,452 in 1890. The proportion of children attending school, as compared with the whole population of the Colony, adult or otherwise, shows an apparent falling off, being 1 in 19 for 1891 as compared with 1 in 18 for 1890, 1 in 19 for 1889, 1 in 21 for 1888, 1 in 22 for 1887, 1 in 24 for 1886 ; but this is due to more accurate returns resulting from the recent Census.

54. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1890 and 1891 is shown in the following table :—

Province.	1890.	1891.
Western - - - - -	1 in 11	1 in 10
Central - - - - -	1 in 34	1 in 29
Northern - - - - -	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern - - - - -	1 in 22	1 in 24
Eastern - - - - -	1 in 15	1 in 17
North-Western - - - -	1 in 34	1 in 37
North Central - - - -	1 in 40	1 in 45
Uva - - - - - -	1 in 78	1 in 52
Sabaragamuwa - - - -	1 in 32	1 in 39

CEYLON. 1891.

55. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1890, and 1891, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1890.	1891.	Boys in 1890.	Boys in 1891.	Girls in 1890.	Girls in 1891.	Total in 1890.	Total in 1891.
Government schools -	436	436	34,775	35,814	5,515	5,932	40,290	41,746
Grant-in-aid schools -	984	971	50,946	52,449	22,752	22,406	73,698	74,855
Unaided private schools -	586	734	14,295	21,852	5,703	7,117	19,998	28,969
Pansala schools - -	2,031	1,911	12,466	8,273	—	—	12,466	8,273
Total - - -	4,037	4,052	112,482	118,388	33,970	35,455	146,452	153,843

—	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1890.	In 1891.	In 1890.	In 1891.	In 1890.	In 1891.
Government Schools.	92	95	Rs. c. 4 50	Rs. c. 4 41	Rs. c. 3 34	Rs. c. 3 40
Grant-in-Aid Schools.	74	77	2 74 per scholar	2 94 per scholar	Boys and girls not distinguished.	
Unaided Private Schls.	34	39	—	—	—	—
Pansala Schools.	6	4	—	—	—	—

56. The following return shows the schools and scholars for 1890 and 1891, omitting the unaided schools :—

1890.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT,					
English - - - - -	3	326	59	385	325
English Primary and Middle - -	11	1,539	1	1,540	952
Vernacular - - - - -	422	32,910	5,455	38,365	21,136
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English - - - - -	49	5,074	1,373	6,447	4,647
English Primary and Middle - -	68	3,165	1,651	4,816	,254
Vernacular - - - -	367	42,707	19,728	62,435	36,057
Total - - - - -	1,420	85,721	28,267	113,988	66,371

1891.

	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English - - - - - -	3	373	66	439	328
English Primary and Middle - -	11	1,641	6	1,647	1,040
Vernacular - - - - -	422	33,800	5,860	39,660	22,510
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English - - - - - -	51	5,496	1,542	7,038	5,170
English Primary and Middle - -	66	3,233	1,566	4,799	3,365
Vernacular - - - - -	854	43,720	19,298	63,018	36,510
Total - - - - -	1,407	88,263	28,338	116,601	68,923

57. As regards schools for special instruction the Agricultural School continues to do good work. While competent instruction is given in all subjects connected with agriculture, manual labour in the field is insisted on and willingly accepted by the students. From the ranks of these, 12 agricultural instructors have been sent to various parts of the Island, some of whom are paid out of local funds. An English veterinary doctor has been attached to the school since the last report, and there is a promise of useful work by him, in inspecting cattle disease, by travelling in outlying districts, and by lectures given in the school during its session.

58. Further attention has been directed to the necessity for some means of technical instruction, and it is hoped that a commencement of practical work in this direction on a small scale may shortly be made. A series of lectures has already been started.

59. The expenditure on education during 1891 was Rs. 508,361·43 as compared with Rs. 474,387·99, in 1890.

(Signed) J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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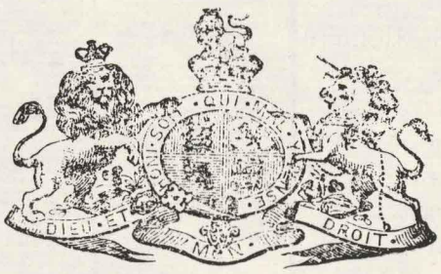
No. 90.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 60.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
September 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–40.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonia Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
54	Labuan	1891
55	British Guiana	"
56	Zululand	"
57	Mauritius	"
58	Lagos	"
59	Straits Settlements	"
60	Ceylon	"
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	"
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	"
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	"
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	"
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	"
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	"
76	Bahamas	"
77	Leeward Islands	"
78	Trinidad and Tobago	"
79	Malta	"
80	Gambia	"
81	Straits Settlements	"
82	Grenada	"
83	Barbados	"
84	St. Vincent	"
85	Hong Kong	"
86	St. Lucia	"
87	Falkland Islands	"
88	Gold Coast	"
89	Basutoland	1892–93

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agricu lture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 90.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 60.]

Sir E. N. WALKER to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

The Pavilion, Kandy,
Ceylon, July 6, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1892.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1892.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony during the year 1892 amounted to Rs. 18,509,187 and the expenditure to Rs. 17,762,466.

The figures for the last two years were—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1890 - - - -	16,228,768	15,316,223
1891 - - - -	17,962,710	16,435,079

I 73120. Wt. 10230.

Revenue.

2. The above figures show an increase of Rs. 544,477 over the Revenue of 1891, and of upwards of 2¼ millions of rupees over that of 1890. The heads of Revenue under which the largest increased returns are found are Customs Duties on Imports, Rs. 388,936; Licenses (the duty on Arrack), Rs. 166,873; and Government Railways, Rs. 267,559. On the other hand, the principal reduction was of Rs. 960,931 on account of Pearl Fisheries, there having been no fishery in 1892.

3. The Auditor-General's report of the 6th June, 1893, published in the Blue Book, explains in detail the increases and decreases in Revenue under the various sub-heads. The figures indicate that the prosperity of the island has been maintained during 1892.

Expenditure.

4. The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1891 was Rs. 1,327,387. A full explanation of the various instances of increase and decrease under the different heads of Expenditure will be found in the Auditor-General's report quoted above.

The principal source of increased expenditure is to be found under the heading of Public Works Extraordinary, Rs. 799,256. This is, of course, a proper investment of the Surplus Revenues of the Colony. The next most considerable increase is in the expenditure of the Railway Department, and is attributable in the main to the increase in staff and in new works required to accommodate the larger traffic carried over the Government lines.

6. The fall in the price of silver has added considerably to the charges for the Public Debt, to the cost of Pensions, and of remittances to England.

7. There has been a reduction of expenditure of Rs. 166,290, due to there having been no Pearl Fishery in 1892, and another reduction under the head of Census expenditure, the greater portion of which necessarily fell into 1891. There is also a considerable saving under Prisons, the result of better administration, and a not inconsiderable saving on the upkeep of Public Works.

8. On the whole, the Revenues of the Colony have been expended with discretion and economy, and the increased expenditure has been properly incurred for the public advantage.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

7. The following table shows the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1893, as compared with January 1, 1892 :—

Assets.				Liabilities.			
1892.		1893.		1892.		1893.	
Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
12,985,784	59	15,155,348	45	10,244,698	21	13,089,939	99
				2,741,086	38*	2,065,408	46*
				12,985,784	59	15,155,348	45

* Balance of Assets over Liabilities.

PUBLIC DEBT.

10. The sterling debt of the Colony raised in London amounted on the 31st December 1892, to 2,603,614*l.*, as against 2,510,759*l.* on the same day in the preceding year, the balance of the 3 per cent. sterling loan of 450,000*l.* of 1890 having been received in the course of the year.

11. The debt of the Colony raised in silver in Colombo amounted to Rs. 1,325,856, as compared with Rs. 335,839 on the same dates. The 4 per cent. loan of Rs. 1,000,000, raised under the Ordinances Nos. 7 and 8 of 1892, was disposed of at the average rate of Rs. 1,019 per Rs. 1,000 of stock.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

12. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1892 was Rs. 132,959,421, as against Rs. 125,435,136, thus :—

	1891.		1892.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	66,635,392	36	70,687,496	89
Exports - - - - -	58,799,744	31	62,271,924	47
Total - - - -	125,435,136	67	132,959,421	36

Or deducting specie :—

	1891.		1892.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	59,036,657	86	62,761,949	63
Exports - - - - -	58,305,601	31	61,095,885	47
Total - - - -	117,342,259	17	123,857,835	10

CEYLON. 1892.

13. The gross customs revenue for 1892 was Rs. 4,663,562·47, which, compared with 1891, the highest previous amount recovered, shows an increase of Rs. 460,242, and compared with 1890 an increase of Rs. 714,998.

14. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1891 as follows:—

Imports.

——		1891.	1892.
Rice - - -	bushels	7,051,432	7,282,411
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	5,573,387	5,473,758
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	„	1,395,156	1,950,373
Metals and metalware -	„	1,855,950	1,969,263
Coal and coke - -	tons	332,749	312,757
Specie - - -	Rs.	7,598,734	7,925,547
Machinery - -	„	951,965	953,938

Exports.

——		1891.	1892.
Coffee - - -	cwts.	89,673	43,338
Cinchona - -	lbs.	5,589,550	6,846,741
Tea - - -	„	67,718,371	72,279,985
Cacao - - -	cwts.	20,015	19,177
Cardamoms - -	lbs.	408,866	247,706
Cocoanut products :—			
Cocoanuts - -	No.	7,421,643 and bags 611	11,438,718 and bags 640
Coir stuffs - -	cwts.	150,263	159,989
Cocoanut oil - -	„	426,669	564,550
Copperah - -	„	68,907	169,073
Arrack - -	gals.	101,378	88,874
Cinnamon - -	lbs.	2,810,098	2,642,449
Citronella oil - -	ozs.	12,139,814	12,825,240
Plumbago -	cwts.	400,540	430,667
Tobacco - -	„	41,428	50,701
Malt liquor - -	gals.	3,936	1,789

SHIPPING.

15. The shipping returns for the island show an increase both in numbers and in tonnage:—

	1891.		1892.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,461	2,857,919	3,760	2,924,864
Cleared - -	3,450	2,839,021	3,734	2,865,842
Total -	6,911	5,696,940	7,494	5,790,706

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

16. The expenditure on the year amounted to Rs. 401,191·82, and the total expenditure from the commencement of the work to Rs. 9,508,107·25.

17. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1892 :—

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.	REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Interest: Public Works Loan Commissioners - - -	100,583	7	Colombo Harbour dues - -	667,640	1
Interest on debentures - -	306,217	29	Pilotage - - - -	45,665	0
Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c., Port of Colombo -	575,370	75	Rent of reclamation ground -	8,893	2
			Single warehouse rent - -	159,334	25
			Rent of wharf and warehouse Company's warehouses - -	6,000	0
			Sundries - - - -	3,376	0
			Amount at debit - -	91,262	83
	982,171	11		982,171	1
	Rs.	c.			
To Principal paid off— Public Works Loan Commissioners	104,553				
Sinking fund - - -	72,793	93			
	177,346	96			

18. The usual series of observations made over the Breakwater after the south-west monsoon showed that the condition of the work still remains eminently satisfactory. No displacement of any kind or undue settlement has to be recorded.

19. The depth of the harbour has been maintained. Soundings taken over the harbour, with a view to determine what change is taking place, show the complete absence of silting action.

20. The new hopper-dredger "Triton" arrived at Colombo in the course of 1892; and the dredger "Merak" and the two hoppers were put under repair.

PUBLIC WORKS.

21. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1892 amounted to Rs. 4,028,602, as compared with Rs. 3,316,111 in 1891.

22. The expenditure may be thus classified:—

	Rs.
Establishment - - - - - -	337,005
Departmental and miscellaneous charges -	339,846
Upkeep of existing roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - - -	1,306,981
Repairs to existing buildings - - -	231,975
New works and buildings - - - -	344,654
Alterations and additions to buildings -	131,372
New roads and improvements of roads and canals - - - - - - -	552,707
New bridges - - - - - - -	319,319
New irrigation works - - - -	376,269
Lands acquired - - - - -	88,474
Total - -	4,028,602

23. 3,298 miles of roads were maintained in 1892 in good order, and the public buildings and works of the Colony were kept in satisfactory order.

24. The Colombo foreshore reclamation has been considerably advanced, and the work of erecting a new General Post Office has progressed favourably. A considerable sum has been expended in extending roads in the province of Uva to communicate with the extension of the main line of railway into that province. The Uggalkaltota irrigation channel in Sabaragamuwa has been completed, and the great irrigation works on the Deduru-oya, in the North-Western province, and at Kumbukkan-ár, in Uva, have been pushed forward, and are nearing completion. The provision of further outlets to discharge the flood waters of the Kelani river has made some progress.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

25. The expenditure of the Department in 1892 amounted to Rs. 450,937·75 as compared with Rs. 422,740, in 1891.

26. The total revenue from land sales was Rs. 427,647, or an increase of Rs. 168,861 on the revenue of 1891.

27. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1892 was 16,576 acres. Of these 3,267 acres were sold to Europeans at an

average rate of Rs. 31·90, an increase of Rs. 11·54 on the 1891 rate. 13,309 acres were purchased by natives at the rate of Rs. 22·74 per acre, an increase of Rs. 5·25 per acre on the rates obtained in 1891.

28. The work of the Department was, as usual, of a very varied character. It included irrigation, forest, cadastral, village boundary, harbour, archæological, road and river, and miscellaneous surveys. Officers of the department were also employed under the Chief Resident Engineer, Railway Extensions, in tracing the lines of railway extension from Kurunégala towards Jaffna.

Forest Department.

29. In settlement, extension, and improvement of forests the following work was done during the year :—

Kind of Work.	Extent.	Cost.
		Rs.
Area reserved during 1892 - - -	12,032 acres.	—
Length of boundaries demarcated - -	2,694 chains.	2,387
Area planted during the year - -	289 acres.	20,090
Roads and bridle paths made in 1892 -	11·34 miles.	2,421

(1.) Areas reserved situated in the Central, North-Western, and Sabaragamuwa provinces.

(2.) Boundaries demarcated in the North-Western and Sabaragamuwa provinces.

(3.) Net cost of plantations (for the year), after deducting revenue is Rs. 18,306. No new plantations were started except small ones in Uva. Teak and Para rubber are both doing well, but the railway fuel plantations at Galboda have not been so successful.

30. The value of sales of timber and other produce during the year amounted to :—

	Rs.
Timber - - - -	299,997
Firewood and charcoal - - -	168,588
Other produce - - - -	12,300
Total - - - -	480,885

31. Of these Rs. 480,885, Rs. 272,165 were from sales to Public Departments and Rs. 197,099 from sales to private purchasers. The sales of *timber* were chiefly of timber in log and sawn for public works and private purchasers, ebony and satin for the English and China markets, sleepers for the Railway Extension Department, &c. Free grants, chiefly for the Chicago Exhibition, amounting in value to nearly Rs. 12,000, were made during the year. Firewood was supplied to the Railway Department, and small amounts were sold in Jaffna, Trincomalee, Galle, &c.

The monopoly of the collection of gallnuts in Uva is yearly rising in value. In 1892 its sale fetched Rs. 7,500.

32. The revenue credited in the Treasury amounted to Rs. 462,427, against an expenditure of Rs. 475,491, but the whole value of the timber sold was not recovered within the year. Taking into account the outstandings due to the Department, the increase of value of timber, &c., in depôts, and value of free grants, the revenue of the Department for the year exceeded the outgoings by Rs. 44,549.

RAILWAYS.

33. The receipts in 1892 amounted to Rs. 4,695,774 as compared with Rs. 4,429,243, thus showing an increase of Rs. 266,531.

The expenditure was Rs. 2,287,275 as compared with Rs. 1,951,456, during 1891.

The net profit was thus Rs. 2,408,499, or 6·4 per cent. on the capital cost of construction.

34. The approximate results for the years 1891 and 1892 of each section of the railway are as follows :—

—	Main Line.		Náwalapitiya Line.		Nánu-oya Line.		Mátalé Line.		Coast Line.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Receipts	Rs. 2,642,576	Rs. 2,799,018	Rs. 430,075	Rs. 451,450	Rs. 782,003	Rs. 811,854	Rs. 116,152	Rs. 118,130	Rs. 458,437	Rs. 515,322
Expenditure	932,393	1,122,346	158,583	175,170	383,002	473,153	104,680	107,482	372,798	409,124
Profit -	1,710,183	1,676,672	271,492	276,280	399,001	338,701	11,472	10,648	85,639	106,198

35. The mileage of railway open for traffic in 1892 was 191½ miles, the same as in 1891. The average cost of construction per mile has been Rs. 196,114.

36. The extensions towards Haputalé and Galle were proceeded with during the year, and the construction of a branch line towards Kurunégala commenced.

POST OFFICE.

37. The receipts of the Post Office are calculated by the Postmaster-General as under for 1892:—

	Rs.
Post Office receipts	470,130
Telegraph receipts	114,953
Total	585,083

But a considerable deduction has actually to be made on account of 5-cent postage stamps used for receipts.

38. The actual expenditure on the same account was:—

Post Office	481,018
Telegraph	101,376
Total	582,394

Credit, however, should be given to the Department for the Government letters, which are carried free, and for other expenditure on account of mail coaches, which is incurred rather in the interests of improved communication between distant stations than for the use of the Department

39. There was a moderate increase in the Postal Order business of the Colony, and the deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 406,725 at the end of 1891 to Rs. 502,476 at the end of 1892. The number of Savings Bank Offices at the end of the year was 127.

40. The number of Post and Telegraph Offices open is as under:—

Telegraph office	1
Combined post and telegraph offices	43
Post offices	83
Railway receiving offices	16
Village receiving offices	105
Total	248

41. A reduction in Postal rates to all countries was effected from July, 1892, and a liberal reduction made in the telegraph charges, from which an increase in the number of messages sent has resulted.

LEGISLATION.

42. In the year 1892 twenty-eight Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council, and were subsequently confirmed by Her Majesty.

43. The Ordinance for the abolition of the Paddy Tax was the most important of the enactments which received Her Majesty's assent. Of the remaining Bills the principal were those amending—

(1.) The Forests and Waste Lands Ordinance of 1885;
(2.) The Ceylon Savings Bank Ordinance, under which the Government assumed the entire control and responsibility for the Institution;
(3.) The Law relating to Postal and Telegraphic Communications; and
(4.) The Law relating to the granting of Exclusive Privileges to Inventors.

44. Ordinances were also passed to provide for the creation of Inscribed Rupee Stock to be issued in the Colony, and for the imposition of a sanitary rate in certain localities which were not under the control of Municipalities or Local Boards.

VITAL STATISTICS.

45. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the five years 1888 to 1892 in the island generally, and in the different provinces:—

Province.	Births to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
CEYLON -	31·8	27·7	31·9	31·8	29·8
Western - -	28·6	24·5	26·2	30·0	29·1
Central - -	30·0	25·1	28·5	29·4	29·9
Northern - -	33·6	27·9	33·7	32·1	30·8
Southern - -	31·3	27·5	31·4	31·1	29·4
Eastern - -	42·9	36·5	46·4	39·4	39·1
North-Western -	34·2	30·9	36·5	33·5	30·4
North Central -	37·9	33·7	46·6	41·6	37·5
Uva - - -	31·4	29·1	42·0	40·6	41·5
Sabaragamuwa -	27·8	28·0	27·9	29·9	28·9

(*continued.*)

Province.	Deaths to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
CEYLON -	26·4	28·5	23·0	28·5	27·2
Western - -	19·1	19·4	15·0	20·0	19·2
Central - -	27·3	25·3	26·3	28·4	31·9
Northern - -	23·8	33·1	22·8	23·3	26·4
Southern - -	23·2	23·5	20·7	32·4	25·9
Eastern - -	26·8	38·9	24·8	31·0	36·3
North-Western -	33·5	45·3	29·1	40·4	33·3
North Central -	41·9	37·7	32·9	34·1	56·3
Uva - - -	39·5	30·0	34·4	42·0	38·9
Sabaragamuwa -	30·3	32·1	25·7	29·4	28·7

The births exceeded the deaths by 8,296, as compared with an excess of 9,850 in 1891.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

46. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 116,472 and the departures to 67,616, being an excess of arrivals of 48,856, as against an excess in 1891 of 43,107, which was the greatest increase since the Indian famine years 1876–1877.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

47. The general health of the people has again been unsatisfactory, though the year shows a slight improvement over 1891.

48. Cholera was less prevalent during the year than in 1891. 1,712 cases with 1,100 deaths were reported, as against 2,579 cases with 1,545 deaths in 1891. The severe outbreak was at Pésálai, where there were 199 cases with 134 deaths. No cases were reported in the Western or Sabaragamuwa provinces.

49. There was a considerable decrease in the mortality from small-pox—355 cases with 56 deaths, as against 1,882 cases and 421 deaths in the previous year.

50. The following table shows the total number of persons vaccinated in 1891 and 1892 :—

——	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1891 - -	149,552	123,217	18,894	92·81	34,543	22,591	78·46
1892 - -	139,179	117,138	15,245	93·37	18,054	12,317	81·65

51. The subjoined table gives the comparative number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1891 and 1892 :—

——	1891.	1892.
Civil Hospitals, including Field or Parangi Hospitals.	35	35
Medical Aid - - - -	11	11
Immigrant - - - - -	7	7
Dispensaries (Civil and District) - -	180	190
Lying-in Hospital - - - -	1	1
Asylums - - - - -	2	2

The death-rate of the total sick population in all the hospitals and asylums in 1892 was 1·46 per cent. higher than in 1891.

52. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 857,714·99 as against Rs. 786,465·44 in 1891. Deducting the receipts from paying patients, collections at outdoor dispensaries, and sale of medicines, the net expenditure was Rs. 779,068·38, as against Rs. 708,948·71 in 1891.

53. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1892 - - -	224,661	78
Receipts from estates - -	61,233	70
Export duty - - -	113,245	67
Deficit - - -	50,182	41
Total -	224,661	78

The deficit in 1891 was Rs. 55,932·46.

Criminal Statistics.

54. The number of cases instituted and of persons charged before police magistrates during the past six years compares as follows :—

	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1887 - - - -	48,755	89,395	17,710
1888 - - - -	54,952	104,179	23,872
1889 - - - -	51,896	91,434	22,612
1890 - - - -	59,542	104,467	28,467
1891 - - - -	58,486	102,930	29,628
1892 - - - -	51,655	95,452	19,705

55. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the last six years :—

	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206
1890 - -	589	453	422	310
1891 - -	467	341	220	163
1892 - -	462	391	395	258

56. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

Year	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1887 -	134	27	40	67	24
1888 -	116	34	48	46	23
1889 -	138	43	38	56	36
1890 -	180	39	46	59	25
1891 -	108	55	10	—	17
1892 -	120	61	7	52	16

57. The convictions in the Supreme Court are slightly above, those in the District Courts considerably below, and those in the Police Courts very greatly below, the average of the six years.

58. The convictions under the heads murder and culpable homicide are still regretably high.

Prisons.

59. The number of regular penal stage jails in the island, outside Colombo, has been reduced to five, in pursuance of the policy recently adopted of concentrating the prisoners in Colombo for the benefit of the stricter supervision there obtainable. All the other jails transfer prisoners sentenced to over a month to the larger prisons.

60. The number of men imprisoned in 1892 was less by 1,800 than the number imprisoned in 1890; the difference in the daily average between 1890 and 1892 amounts to 767, that is, the return of admission shows a diminution of 22, and that of the daily average of 25 per cent.

For three successive years (1890, 1891, and 1892) there has been, not only a yearly, but in the two latter years a monthly diminution.

61. The expenditure for the years 1891 and 1892 was as under:—

—	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment - - - -	168,008	159,452
Dieting - - - - -	217,054	192,828
Hospital charges - - - -	6,338	6,351
Clothing and bedding - - -	30,415	19,483
Lighting - - - - -	6,280	5,780
Materials for manufacture - - -	44,965	22,489
Other expenditure - - - -	65,415	76,202
Total - - - -	538,485	482,585

62. The daily sick per thousand of the daily average strength were 59·32 in 1891 and 59·81 in 1892.

The death-rate for the island runs as follows:—

Year.	Deaths per Thousand.
1889 - - - - -	43
1890 - - - - -	28
1891 - - - - -	46
1892 - - - - -	54

The high death-rate of 1892 is due entirely to the abnormal death-rate in Kandy, a death-rate which was accompanied by a very low sick rate. Excluding Kandy, the death-rate for the island comes to 47 per thousand.

63. The position of the guards has been very materially improved. Good quarters have been built in Kandy, and are being built in Colombo. Uniforms have been issued in Colombo, and are being made for Kandy. Half a full diet is issued to officers drawing less than 40 rupees a month at the following jails:—Colombo, Kandy, and Anurádhapura. A scheme has been sanctioned, by which some or all of these advantages shall be given to the officers of penal stage jails when those jails have been reported to be in a state of thorough efficiency.

CEYLON. 1892.

EDUCATION.

64. During the year under review there was a net increase of 4,615 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1892 being 158,458, as against 153,843 in 1891.

65. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1891 and 1892 is shown in the following table:—

Province.	1891.	1892.
Western	1 in 10	1 in 11
Central	1 in 29	1 in 29
Northern	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern	1 in 24	1 in 22
Eastern	1 in 17	1 in 19
North-Western	1 in 37	1 in 33
North Central	1 in 45	1 in 48
Uva	1 in 52	1 in 56
Sabaragamuwa	1 in 39	1 in 41

66. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1891 and 1892, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools:—

	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1891.	1892.	Boys in 1891.	Boys in 1892.	Girls in 1891.	Girls in 1892.	Total in 1891.	Total in 1892.
Government schools	436	453	35,814	36,030	5,932	6,110	41,746	42,190
Grant-in-aid schools	971	1,024	52,449	57,133	22,406	25,504	74,855	82,637
Unaided private schools	734	692	21,852	21,154	7,117	5,599	28,969	26,753
Pansala schools	1,911	1,703	8,273	6,878	—	—	8,273	6,878
Total	4,052	3,872	118,388	121,245	35,455	37,213	153,843	158,458

	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1891.	In 1892.	In 1891.	In 1892.	In 1891.	In 1892.
Government schools.	95	93	Rs. c. 4 41	Rs. c. 4 47	Rs. c. 3 40	Rs. c. 3 45
Grant-in-aid schools.	77	80	2 94 per scholar	2 68 per scholar	Boys and girls not distinguished	
Unaided private schls.	39	38	—	—	—	—
Pansala schools.	4	4	—	—	—	—

67. As regards schools for special instruction, the Colombo School of Agriculture continues to do good work. The course of instruction is practical as well as theoretical. With this school are now amalgamated the three centres for training students previously existent at Kandy, Udugampola, and Bentota. The English Veterinary Surgeon, Mr. C. A. Lye, gives a course of theoretical and practical instruction in veterinary science to the students, besides visiting outlying districts in connection with cattle disease. Arrangements for the establishment of a Technical School have been made, and it is hoped to start the school in 1893.

68. The expenditure on education during 1892 was Rs. 525,839·19, as compared with Rs. 508,361·43 in 1891.

(Signed) J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Colonial Secretary's Office, Acting Colonial Secretary.
Colombo, August 5, 1893.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 50.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 17.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
13	Gibraltar	1890
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 50.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 17.)

Sir R. T. GOLDSWORTHY to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Stanley,
June 21, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward two copies of theBlue Book of this Colony for 1891, together with the report of the Colonial Secretary thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROGER TUCKFIELD GOLDSWORTHY.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the FALKLAND ISLANDS BLUE BOOK, 1891.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

By Ordinance No. 8 of 1891, a license may be obtained to brew beer on the premises, and to sell the same in quantities of not less than two gallons, at the rate of 2*l.* per annum. By the same ordinance there is a duty of 6*s.* imposed on every 36 gallons of beer of a specific gravity of 10·30°, and a duty of 3*d.* for every 2° in excess thereof.

Since the reconstruction of the Offices of Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, certain fees received hitherto by the officials discharging these offices, and the minor offices attaching, are now paid into the Treasury

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Revenue for 1891 amounted to 11,551*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* and the Expenditure to 13,302*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*

The excess of receipts over estimate was 1,901*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

The excess of expenditure over estimate was 4,148*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

The excess of actual expenditure over receipts was 1,708*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*

There is no public debt.

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FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Public Works.

During 1891 much attention has been given to the repair of roads and drains. A sea wall, running from the Dockyard to the Falkland Islands Company's West Store, was commenced to be built and, mostly through the labour of prisoners, was considerably advanced during the latter part of the year. When completed, this will not only have added greatly to the appearance of the settlement, but will in a great measure prevent the high tides from gradually washing away the embankment adjacent.

The transference of the Government Offices from the extreme west end of the settlement, to what used formerly to be the court-house buildings and Colonial Secretary's quarters, brought about what is acknowledged by all to be an immense improvement. In one building are now to be found the Courthouse, the Judges' Chambers, the Colonial Secretary's Office, the Colonial Treasurer and Postmaster's Offices, and the residential quarters of the Treasury Clerk.

It is contemplated to convert the old offices which lie about one mile from the centre of the town of Stanley into residential quarters for the Colonial Secretary and Colonial Treasurer.

The ground at the back of the row of cottages known as "the Constables Row" has been levelled, and a cartway passing from Barrack Street round the back of the cottages on to the main road made.

The total expenditure on jetties, public buildings, and local works, amounted to 3,078*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.*

Legislation.

During the year ten Ordinances were passed.

No. 1.—An Ordinance to make further provision for the administration of justice.

This Ordinance was passed because on the retirement of Governor Kerr, C.M.G., his successor, Sir R. T. Goldsworthy, K.C.M.G., did not assume the office of Chief Justice in conjunction with that of Governor, and therefore a new office of Judge and Magistrate was created by this Ordinance, which office has since been combined with that of Colonial Secretary.

No. 2.—The Naturalization Ordinance.

This Ordinance was passed with the object of avoiding a separate Ordinance having to be passed for each alien desirous of becoming naturalised.

No 3.—An Ordinance to amend the Public Health Ordinance, 1886.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to provide for the holding of Commissions of Inquiry. This Ordinance was passed on the 20th of July, 1891.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating to Customs duties and trade.

This Ordinance was passed on the 14th October, 1891.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to declare the validity of all Ordinances passed, and votes granted by the Legislative Council, during the period between the 6th day of July, 1891, when A. E. Baillon, Esquire, took his seat as a member of the Council, and the date when Her Majesty's Warrant for his appointment as a member of such Council was issued. This Ordinance was passed on the 8th day of October, 1891.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to extend to this Colony a certain Act of Parliament cited as "The Bills of Exchange Act, 1882." This Ordinance was passed 10th October, 1891.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to provide for the license of brewers and to impose a duty on beer manufactured in the Colony. This Ordinance was passed on the 14th October, 1891.

No. 9.—The Naturalization Amendment Ordinance of 1891. This Ordinance was passed on the 14th December, 1891, and was a re-enactment of Ordinance No. 2 of same year with certain amendments.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of the Falkland Islands for the year 1892. This Ordinance was passed on the 22nd December and came into operation same day.

Executive Council.

His Honour Judge Routledge became a member of the Council on his appointment to the office of Judge, Magistrate, and Colonial Secretary.

Legislative Council.

Mr. F. E. Cobb, who was a member of the Council, having resigned, in his place Mr. A. E. Baillon was on the 6th July, 1891, appointed a member of the Legislative Council.

On the 22nd December, 1891, the Hon. F. S. Sanguinetti ceased to act as Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, and the Hon. R. M. Routledge, Judge, Magistrate, and Colonial Secretary, assumed his seat as a member of the Council.

Civil Establishment.

On the 28th March, 1891, Governor Kerr, C.M.G., returned to England, and the Hon. F. S. Sanguinetti, Acting Colonial Secretary, administered the Government of the Colony until the 13th day of April, when Sir R. T. Goldsworthy, K.C.M.G., arrived and was sworn in as Governor.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

On the 19th May Mr. W. A. Harding arrived to relieve Mr. H. B. Jameson, Government Clerk, who went to England on leave of absence.

On the 27th of June R. M. Routledge, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, arrived to take up the appointment of Judge and Magistrate for the term of six months, at the end of which time he was appointed Judge, Magistrate, and Colonial Secretary.

On the departure of Mr. Sanguinetti, Mr. W. A. Harding was appointed Acting Colonial Treasurer, Mr. William Coulson, Treasury Clerk, and Mr. W. R. M. Spearman, Acting Government Clerk.

H. P. Millet was appointed printer and gaoler in place of Henry Adams who held the latter appointment. William Grierson resigned his appointment as horsekeeper, which has not been filled up.

T. Curry, Government gardener, was dismissed and John Botwood appointed in his place.

Miss Sarah Preston, nurse and midwife, resigned on the 15th day of November, 1891, and the appointment has been discontinued.

Pensions.

There was no change under this head.

Population.

The total population as taken by the census on 5th April, 1891, was 1,086 males and 703 females—total, 1,789.

The number of births were 27 males and 16 females—total 43. And the deaths 16 males and 8 females—total 24.

The Colonial Surgeon, who resides in Stanley, East Falklands, reports as follows :—

"It is my pleasing duty to state that the health of the settlement is eminently satisfactory.

"There has been no epidemic or endemic disease whatever since the hybrid [?], which was a compound of the influenza and partaking of the most virulent form of pertussis (whooping cough), with the accompanying sequelæ peculiar to that spasmodic disease when adults are attacked, visited us September and October 1890.

"Even the infantile diseases so prevalent in the spring and autumn have been distinguished by their absence.

"For over two years I have not had a single case of enteric or typhoid fever, which for some years caused considerable havoc. The reason for this is obvious. The people have been educated to a higher standard, and in place of rebelling against the laws of health they now try, in many instances, to obey her just demands, being painfully conscious that retributive justice speedily follows."

The following is the report of the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, who resides at Fox Bay, West Falklands :—

"I have to report the occurrence of a few cases of chicken-pox which spread from an imported case.

"No improvement has occurred in the general health of the children and the majority of them would be all the better for some attempt at physical and mental culture. The bad cases of rickets occur when the children are brought up on condensed milk, which is largely used in the camp.

"The Vaccination Act has been carried out to the best of my ability; arm to arm vaccination is scarcely possible, being much objected to by the people, which is hardly surprising."

Education Report, 1891.

The Colonial Chaplain, who is Inspector of Schools, reports as follows:—

"The ordinary work, as laid down by the Colonial Government, was carried out during the year in the Government Schools.

"Two private schools and one night school (during the winter) were also open.

"The number of children actually attending school at the end of the year was as follows:—

Government Senior School.	Boys	- -	30
„ „	Girls	- -	23
„ Infant Schools.	Boys	- -	33
„ „	Girls	- -	30
Rev. J. R. O' Grady's School.	Boys	- -	15
„ „	Girls	- -	12
Miss Prior's School.	Boys	- -	13
„	Girls	- -	6
		Total,	162
„ Night School (during winter)	Boys	- -	15
„ „	Girls	- -	5
		Total,	20

"The school accommodation is fully equal to the present needs of Stanley.

"In the camp, the Falkland Islands Company still keep a small school at Darwin, attended by the children of about seven families, otherwise nothing is being done for education in the camp, though the number scattered throughout the Islands almost equals the number of children in Stanley.

"A proposal has been made either to have 'Travelling School Master,' or one or two Boarding Schools' for camp children; as yet nothing has been formulated."

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports during 1891 was 67,827*l.*, shewing an increase over the previous year of 645*l.*

The value of the exports was 130,752*l.*, being an increase over the previous year of 24,687*l.*

Shipping.

26 sailing vessels arrived in the Colony during the year. The tonnage of the whole was 16,766, and the crews numbered 384.

Of these there arrived at :—

Port Stanley - - - -	23
Fox Bay - - - - -	1
Roy Cove - - - - -	2
Total -	26

17 steam vessels entered at ports in the Falkland Islands during the year, with a tonnage of 27,647, and crews numbering 707.

" Of these there arrived at :—

Port Stanley - - - - -	15
San Carlos - - - - - -	2
Total,	17

The following ships belonging to Her Majesty's Navy, and attached to the south-east coast of America squadron, visited the Islands during the year :—

The Magpie, Cleopatra, Beagle, and Basilisk.

The " Maipo," a ship of war belonging to the Chilian Government, put into Stanley and took on board stores of coal, water, and clothing.

Criminal Statistics.

During the year only two criminal cases were brought into the Supreme Court.

38 persons were brought before the Magistrate's Court. 15 of these were refractory seamen for offences against the Merchant Shipping Acts, and the whole, being convicted, were sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from a few days to six months.

The other cases consisted mostly of charges for drunkenness, assault, and three of concealing wrecked goods. In the most of these cases fines were inflicted.

Savings Bank.

The following is the report by Mr. W. A. Harding, Acting Colonial Treasurer, on the balance sheet of the Savings Bank for 1890–1.

"The number of depositors, and the amount on deposit have been as follows, in the financial years since the opening of the Bank on 1st April 1888.

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amounts.
		£ s. d.
1888 - - - -	32	4,201 1 5
1889 - - - -	100	15,139 4 3
1890 - - - -	157	17,810 12 2
1891 - - - -	175	21,627 12 10

"It will be observed from this return that the amount on deposit has increased by over 3,800*l.* during the year, although the number of depositors has increased by 18 only, a healthy sign showing that the original depositors continue to add to their deposits. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor is 121*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* exclusive of an investment on account of intestate estates, and taking the population at 1,800 the deposits show an average of 11*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.* per head of the population."

Friendly Society.

The Stanley Benefit Club, which was established in 1859, has now a membership of 129. The balance sheet of 1891 showed the amount of receipts to have been 147*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.* and the expenditure 136*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* The total capital amounts to 953*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*

General Remarks.

The year 1891 was, according to the report of several of the earliest settlers, one of the most genial in regard to weather ever experienced in the Falklands. There was little snow and no severe frosts during the winter, and a fine summer was ushered in by a mild spring. Seasons like it cannot be too highly appreciated in a Colony such as this, where so much depends on the rearing of sheep.

Falkland Islands wool continues to realise a fair price in the markets, and the export during the year was 3,885,210 lbs.

The number of carcasses of frozen mutton sent from this Colony to the home market was 18,277.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

A large number of shepherds and others from the several stations have, during the year, left the Colony to settle in Patagonia, which country offers great scope for farming enterprise. This caused rather heavy withdrawals from the Savings Bank, for many of the shepherds possess considerable deposits, the saving of many years earnings in this Colony.

(Signed) R. M. ROUTLEDGE,
Colonial Secretary.

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No. 87.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

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1893.

[C.—6857.–37.]

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
52	Grenada	1891
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 87.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 50.)

Acting Governor MELVILLE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Stanley,
June 19, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892, together with the annual report thereon prepared by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. MELVILLE,
Administrator.

The Right Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the FALKLAND ISLANDS BLUE BOOK, 1892.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

There has been no alteration regarding the revenue arising from the taxes, duties, &c. during the past year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Revenue for 1892 amounted to 11,485*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, and the Expenditure to 10,947*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*

The receipts were less than the estimates by 474*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

The excess of expenditure over estimate was 983*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

The surplus of actual receipts over actual expenditure was 537*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*

There is no public debt.

Public Works.

During 1892 the building of the sea wall commenced in 1891 has been continued and will shortly be completed. When the space between the sea wall and the grassy slope which lies between the Dockyard and the Falkland Islands Company's West Store

has been filled in, Stanley will possess what may be called its village green.

The total expenditure on jetties, sea wall, Government buildings, and local works amounted to 1,429*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*

Legislation.

During the year twelve Ordinances were passed.

No. 1.—An Ordinance to make further provision for the service of the Colony for 1890.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to provide for the holding of Commissions of enquiry.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to amend the Brewers Licensing Ordinance, 1891.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to make further provision for the service of the Colony for the year 1891.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to provide for the prevention of the spreading of any contagious or infectious disorders amongst dogs or other animals within the Colony.

This Ordinance was passed in order to prevent the removal of animals suffering from infectious or contagious disorders within the Colony, as the Ordinance in force in the Colony merely related to the importation of animals into the Colony.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to amend the Administration of Justice Ordinance, 1876.

By this Ordinance fees derived for the discharge of Notarial Acts by the holder of the office of Judge to which that of Notary Public is attached are made payable into the Colonial Treasury instead of as hitherto to the holder of the office.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to raise a sum of money by a tax on tenements in Stanley, and to provide for the application thereof and of other local taxes for the proposed local improvements.

Ordinance No. 14 of 1882 which was an Ordinance whereby a tenement tax was imposed for the term of ten years, being by effluxion of time about to expire on 31st December, it was considered necessary in order to provide means of meeting certain expenditure on local improvements that this tax should be continued for a further term of five years, and along with certain other local taxes devoted towards the paying off the expenditure to be incurred.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Falkland Islands for the year 1893.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend the Stanley Cemetery Ordinance, 1888.

By this Ordinance the trusteeship of the whole of the ground in Stanley set apart for a burial ground has been placed in the hands of the Governor of the Colony for the time being. The Burial Board has also been reconstructed by the addition to its number of the priest in charge of the Roman Catholic Chapel and the minister for the time being of the Baptist Chapel.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 5 of 1891.

The necessity for the passing of this Ordinance arose from certain omissions in the Schedule of Tariffs attached to the Customs Consolidation Ordinance.

No. 11.—An Ordinance to provide for the appointment of Visiting Justices for the gaol in Stanley.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to make further provision for the postal service of the Falkland Islands.

Orders in Council.

Orders in Council, dated 10th March and 11th August respectively were issued.

The necessity for these arose from two serious outbreaks of distemper amongst the dogs in the Islands.

Executive Council.

The Honourable Charles Arthur Fraser, Colonial Treasurer, became a Member of Council on the 17th March in place of the Honourable and Reverend Lowther E. Brandon, Colonial Chaplain, resigned.

Legislative Council.

The Honourable Charles Arthur Fraser became a Member of Council on the 17th March.

Civil Establishment.

On the 17th March, Mr. Fraser arrived to take up the offices of Colonial Treasurer, Collector of Customs, Postmaster, &c., the duties of which offices had been discharged by Mr. W. A. Harding, Acting Government Clerk, as Acting Treasurer, &c. since Mr. Sanguinetti's departure in December 1891.

Mr. W. Spearman acted as Government Clerk until the return of Mr. Harding to that office on the arrival of Mr. Fraser.

On the 25th of August, Mr. C. W. Hill arrived, and assumed office as Government Clerk in room of Mr. Harding, who returned to the Colonial Office, London. The Reverend E. Coupland Aspinall was appointed Assistant Colonial Chaplain, and the Reverend L. E. Brandon, Colonial Chaplain, received the sanction

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1892.

of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to his assuming the title of Dean of Christ Church, Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Captain John Campbell resigned his appointment as Pilot and Master of the Government Schooner "Hadassah" and was succeeded by Mr. Wilmer, Assistant Pilot. W. Quianlan was appointed Police Sergeant and Instructor of Volunteers.

Pensions.

James Hocking, formerly gaoler, died on the 23rd November at the age of 73 years. He was placed on the pension list on 1st January 1879.

Population.

The population consists of 1,086 males and 783 females; total 1869.

During the year the number of births was 21 males and 22 females, total 43, and the deaths 10 males and 8 females, total 18.

The Colonial Surgeon, who resides in Stanley, East Falklands, reports as follows:—

"I am happy to place on record the fact that there has been an absence of epidemic and endemic diseases, the latter of which was frequent in the settlement in consequence of defective sanitary arrangements and utter ignorance of hygienic rules. A great improvement has taken place in the habits of the people. Much might be done in having a proper system of drainage, with intercepting sewers and main drains; the surface is most favourable for it, as there is a sufficient fall from the Murray Heights to the Harbour.

"The usual infantile diseases are below the average, and there has been no return of the hybrid (a compound of hooping cough and influenza) with its sequelæ of pneumonia and bronchitis which caused much havoc two years ago. Notwithstanding the climate being so changeable, the scarcity of pulmonary complaints is remarkable, especially as tubercle in many cases is dormant and merely requires the exciting cause to bring forth its deadly effects. Specific diseases are not frequent."

The following is the report of the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, who resides at Fox Bay, West Falklands:—

"I have the honour to report that there were no serious cases of illness during 1892. There were no cases of zymotic disease, but numerous cases of an extremely infectious catarrh. The exact nature is extremely difficult to determine, but it is a specific fever running through all stages of a fever in about a week.

"I wish to call the attention of the Government to the food supply of these Islands, and to point out that the only food for which there is any guarantee of freedom from adulteration is the mutton, and that, even, contains too much water.

"After examining a child brought up on a sticky substance called 'condensed milk' we are very apt to doubt the bold words on the tins of that substance. Our doubts are confirmed by chemical examination, and by the knowledge of a machine called the Centrifugal Cream Separator, made in England but used abroad."

Education Report.

The Colonial Chaplain, as Inspector of Schools, reports as follows:—

"The Government schools were conducted as usual during the year 1892, there being no break from sickness or otherwise.

"The schools were examined twice during the year, and the progress of the children found to be satisfactory."

"The number of children and average attendances were as follows:—

Number of names on the rolls during the year:

Senior school - - - -	74
Infant school - - - -	69

Number of names on the rolls in January and December respectively:

Senior school - - - -	87
	74
Infant school - - - -	45
	69

Average attendance during the year:

Senior school - - - -	50·1
Infant school - - - -	45

The two private schools, (*a*) the Roman Catholic School and (*b*) Miss Prior's School, were open during the year.

Attendance at Roman Catholic School:

Boys - - - - -	29
Girls - - - - -	22
Total - -	51

Attendance at Miss Prior's School:

Boys - - - - -	13
Girls - - - - -	10
Total - -	23

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports during 1892 was 70,138*l.*, showing an increase over the previous year of 2,311*l.*

The value of the exports was 126,312*l.*, being a decrease from the previous year of 4,440*l.*

Shipping.

Twenty-nine sailing vessels arrived in the Colony during the year. The tonnage of the whole was 16,197, and the crews numbered 393.

Of these there arrived at—

Port Stanley	20
San Carlos	2
Hill Cove	3
Port Howard	2
Shallow Bay	1
Spring Point	1
Total	29

Eighteen steam vessels entered Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands during the year, with a tonnage of 27,323, and crews numbering 764.

The following ships belonging to Her Majesty's Navy, and attached to the south-east coast of America squadron, visited the Islands during 1892:—

The "Cleopatra," "Beagle," and "Basilisk."

The Russian Corvette "Djighit" visited Port Stanley during the month of February.

Criminal Statistics.

During the year there were but three criminal cases brought into the Supreme Court.

Thirty-eight persons were brought before the Police Court. The charges consisted mostly of offences against the Merchant Shipping Acts, drunkenness, &c., and in most cases the punishment awarded was the infliction of a fine.

Savings Bank.

The following is the report of the Colonial Treasurer on the balance sheet of the Savings Bank for 1891–2:—

"The number of depositors, and amount of deposits have been as follows in the financial years since the opening of the Bank on April 1st, 1888.

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amounts. £	s.	d.
1888	32	4,201	1	5
1889	100	15,139	4	3
1890	157	17,810	12	2
1891	175	21,627	13	10
1892	196	24,940	9	5

The amount deposited has increased by 3,312*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, and the number of depositors by 21. Forty-two depositors have closed their accounts during the year, and sixty-three new accounts have been opened. The average amount standing to the credit of each account is 127*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, and, computing the population of the Colony at 1,800, the average savings per head of population is 13*l.* 17*s.* The amount of deposits received during the year was 1,812*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, and deposits repaid amounted to 5,355*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*

Friendly Society.

The Stanley Benefit Club, established in 1859, for the purpose of affording relief to members during sickness and also of defraying funeral expenses, has a membership of 129, the same as in 1891.

The amount of invested funds is 900*l.*

Income for the year ending 30th April 1892, as shown by the balance sheet, was 147*l.* 16*s.*, and the expenditure for same period 136*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* The total amount of funds amounts to 953*l.* 14*s.*

General Remarks.

The year 1892 will be a historical one for the Falkland Islands; on the 25th day of February what had formerly been known as a settlement received at the hands of Her Majesty, by Letters Patent dated 25th February 1892, the dignity of becoming a Colony. The Proclamation took place in the Court house, and in accordance with the instructions received, his Excellency the Governor and other officials were sworn in to their respective offices under the new title.

A volunteer force has also been embodied throughout the Colony.

A new church, named Christ Church, which has been built on the site of the former one at a cost of over 8,000*l.*, was opened for divine service and consecrated by the Bishop of the Falkland Islands on the 21st of February.

Four whaling vessels visited Stanley in the spring of the year on their way to the Antarctic regions, having sailed from Dundee, N.B., in the month of September for the purpose of prosecuting the whale fishing in southern latitudes.

Several vessels came into Stanley during the year in the condition locally known as "lame ducks." These are welcome visitors to the Colony, affording, as they do, plenty of work to the carpenters, smiths, &c.

The Falkland Islands wool continues to realise a fair price, and the amount exported during the year, though under that of the previous year, was 3,065,751 lbs.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1892.

The number of carcases of frozen mutton sent from this Colony was 17,882 as compared with 18,277 in 1891.

One serious drawback to these Islands is the want of more frequent mail communication with the home country. It is very much to be desired that before long some means may be found of remedying this much-felt grievance.

(Signed R. M. ROUTLEDGE,
Colonial Secret ary

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 72.

FIJI.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 45.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-22.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 72.

FIJI.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 45.)

Sir J. B. THURSTON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Suva, Fiji,
January 9, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith two copies of the Blue Book for 1891, together with a carefully prepared report thereon by the Assistant Colonial Secretary, Mr. James Stewart.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN B. THURSTON.

The Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

COLONY OF FIJI.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK: YEAR 1891.

I.—FINANCE.

The estimated and actual revenue and expenditure for the year 1891 stand as under:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Estimated - - -	65,376 0 0	63,716 5 4	1,659 14 8
Actual - - - -	71,249 18 11	67,819 17 7	3,430 1 4

The actual expenditure amounted to 60,973*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* which would have given a surplus of 10,276*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* This surplus was charged by way of extraordinary expenditure, with the sum of 6,846*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.*

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for the purpose of refunding to public officers the special tax which, during a period of financial difficulty, it had been found necessary to impose on official salaries.

The actual revenue and expenditure, with accruing surplus of deficit during each of the past six years, have been as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1886 - -	64,574 1 1	78,133 8 2	—	13,559 7 1
1887 - -	64,916 2 9	73,150 13 1	—	8,234 10 4
1888 - -	65,018 14 8	58,993 0 5	6,025 14 3	—
1889 - -	63,722 0 6	57,710 2 3	6,011 18 3	—
1890 - -	66,817 5 1	60,826 6 6	5,990 18 7	—
1891 - -	71,249 18 11	67,819 17 7	3,430 1 4	—

The following statement shows the heads under which the revenue accrues and also the amount collected under each head during the years 1890 and 1891, together with the increase or decrease of the revenue of the year 1891 as compared with that of the previous year.

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Tax or Duty.	Amount Collected in the Year 1891.	Amount Collected in the Year 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
I.—CUSTOMS.				
Import Dues, viz.:—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beer - - - -	937 9 10	710 2 9	227 7 1	—
Drapery - - - -	5,866 1 1	4,734 16 0	1,131 5 1	—
Hardware - - -	1,274 15 8	1,687 1 3	—	412 5 7
Oils - - - -	3,869 11 10	3,318 14 5	550 17 5	—
Rice - - - -	2,486 13 11	2,129 17 7	356 16 4	—
Soap - - - -	1,228 8 11	968 13 2	259 15 9	—
Spirits - - - -	4,399 18 0	4,656 6 3	—	256 8 3
Tobacco - - - -	1,478 13 4	1,862 1 4	—	383 8 0
Timber - - - -	1,799 9 9	702 13 1	1,096 16 8	—
Other kinds - - -	7,924 16 2	5,388 8 6	2,536 7 8	—
Export Dues, viz.:				
Sandalwood - - -	0 16 3	—	0 16 3	—
Silver Coin - - -	2 5 0	—	2 5 0	—
Total Customs - -	31,268 19 9	26,158 14 4	6,162 7 3	1,052 1 10

Tax or Duty.	Amount Collected in the Year 1891.	Amount Collected in the Year 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
II.—PORT, WHARFAGE, AND LIGHTHOUSE DUES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Shipping Fees	45 19 6	49 6 6	—	3 7 0
Wharfage	2,720 1 6	2,545 2 9	174 18 9	—
Light Dues	653 2 9	549 0 11	104 1 10	—
Total Port, &c. Dues	3,419 3 9	3,143 10 2	279 0 7	3 7 0
III.—LICENSES, EXCISE AND INTERNAL REVENUE NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED.				
1. Licenses, viz.:—				
Arms	165 15 0	157 0 0	8 15 0	—
Banks	97 10 0	90 0 0	7 10 0	—
Coasting	736 12 0	719 6 0	17 6 0	—
Insurance	125 0 0	120 0 0	5 0 0	—
Liquor	580 0 0	444 0 0	136 0 0	—
Professional	139 15 0	158 15 0	—	19 0 0
Trading	1,639 10 0	1,449 10 0	190 0 0	—
Other Licenses	320 17 0	450 5 0	—	129 8 0
Total Licenses	3,804 19 0	3,588 16 0	364 11 0	148 8 0
2. Fines	1,032 19 7	1,159 14 7	—	126 15 0
3. Water Rate, Municipal	537 14 6	604 13 10	—	66 19 4
4. Stamp Duty	1,278 9 3	1,657 8 8	—	378 19 5
5. Native Taxes	20,914 11 7	20,770 16 3	143 15 4	—
6. Sale of Seizures	6 17 1	0 3 0	6 14 1	—
Total Licenses, Excise, &c.	27,575 11 0	27,781 12 4	515 0 5	721 1 9
IV.—FEES OF COURT OR OFFICE, PAYMENTS FOR SPECIFIC SERVICES, AND REIMBURSEMENTS IN AID.				
1. Rent of Bond, Kerosene and Powder Warehouses	212 7 9	283 16 4	—	71 8 7
2. Water to Shipping	286 1 0	265 5 0	20 16 0	—
3. Court Fees	316 10 4	340 8 9	—	23 18 5
4. Fees on Crown Grants and Surveys	107 9 6	177 16 11	—	70 7 5
5. Registration Fees	344 14 0	338 10 6	6 3 6	—
6. Native Technical School	198 12 5	10 0 0	188 12 5	—
7. Polynesian Labour Depot	616 0 6	488 16 11	127 3 7	—
8. Repayment of former Advances	39 15 0	99 6 8	—	59 11 8
9. Freights	30 14 0	69 8 0	—	38 14 0

Tax or Duty.	Amount Collected in the Year 1891.	Amount Collected in the Year 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
10. Hospitals	1,244 7 3	1,028 6 7	216 0 8	—
11. Lunatic Asylum	77 11 3	33 1 9	44 9 6	—
12. Cemetery Fees	66 18 9	79 17 3	—	12 18 6
13. Printing, and Sale of Gazettes	249 6 10	220 18 11	28 7 11	—
4. Work of Prisoners	445 6 4	536 9 8	—	91 3 4
15. Officers' Overtime and other Fees	528 0 7	—	528 0 7	—
16. Poundage and Overtime, Intestate Estates	267 12 9	588 14 7	—	321 1 10
17. Permits to Recruit Native Labourers	12 0 0	127 0 0	—	115 0 0
18. Sea-going, Sailing, and Competency Certificates	242 6 0	277 11 0	—	35 5 0
19. Patent Fees	10 10 0	16 16 0	—	6 6 0
20. Marriage and Divorce Fees	91 11 6	87 0 1	4 11 5	—
21. Pilotage	878 7 2	747 0 10	131 6 4	—
2. Poundage on "Provincial Department Deposit Account"	200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—
Total Fees of Court, &c.	6,466 2 11	6,016 5 9	1,295 11 11	845 14 9
V.—POST OFFICE.				
1. Ocean Postage	94 7 11	362 11 0	—	268 3 1
2. Postage Stamps	1,434 0 5	1,391 2 4	42 18 1	—
3. Postage—Unpaid Letters	39 5 5	44 6 5	—	5 1 0
4. Private Boxes and Bags	97 0 0	91 13 4	5 6 8	—
Total Post Office	1,664 13 9	1,889 13 1	48 4 9	273 4 1
VI.—RENT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.				
1. Annual Premium on Government House Furniture	12 5 0	12 17 0	—	0 12 0
2. Rent of Lands leased to Indian Immigrants and others	282 19 6	216 8 9	66 10 9	—
Total rent of Government property	295 4 6	229 5 9	66 10 9	0 12 0
VII.—INTEREST.				
Interest on overdue Immigration Accounts	22 7 5	—	22 7 5	—

Tax or Duty.	Amount Colected in the Year 1891.	Amount Collected in the Year 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
VIII.—Miscellaneous.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Sale of Old Stores, &c. -	12 4 5	848 8 1	—	836 3 8
2. Sundries - - -	485 11 5	749 15 7	—	264 4 2
Total Miscellaneous -	497 15 10	1,598 3 8	—	1,100 7 10
IX.—Land Sales - -	40 0 0	—	40 0 0	—
Grand Total - -	71,249 18 11	66,817 5 1	8,429 3 1	3,996 9 3

The revenue is higher than that of any year since 1885, when the period of commercial depression that has affected tropical agriculture, particularly in the item of sugar, first began to be felt in Fiji.

The total revenue (71,249*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*) exceeded that of the year 1890 by 4,432*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

This excess is due almost exclusively to an increase in the revenue derived from customs duties, which amounted in the aggregate to 31,268*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* There has been no alteration in the customs tariff, but the volume of imports has risen by 22 per cent.

There has been an increase on the receipts from all the principal items of import duties with the exception of hardware, spirits, and tobacco, which each show a slight falling off.

The net increase under the head of customs dues is 5,110*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* The total revenue from customs dues is equal to 13·22 per cent. on the total value of imports (excluding produce imported for exportation, on which no duties are leviable).

The following statement shows in a comparative form the expenditure of the Colony during the years 1890 and 1891:—

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d
Charges on Account of Public Debt - - - -	8,247 15 0	8,241 0 0	6 15 0	—
Pensions - - - -	455 16 8	272 14 8	183 2 0	—
The Governor and Legislature -	2,322 17 1	2,272 13 8	50 3 5	—
Colonial Secretary - -	1,109 8 6	1,045 7 4	64 1 2	—
Printing Department - -	1,295 3 5	1,247 14 10	47 8 7	—
Audit Department - -	566 11 0	600 6 10	—	33 15 10
Postal Department - -	941 17 7	1,633 14 2	—	691 16 7
Provincial Department - -	4,795 14 1	5,219 16 6	—	424 2 5

Head of Expenditure.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Treasury	3,778 16 6	4,113 4 9	—	334 8 3
Customs	2,428 3 2	2,166 11 7	261 11 7	—
Port and Marine	1,176 13 3	1,319 15 4	—	143 2 1
Immigration Department	6,367 14 11	6,992 0 4	—	624 5 5
Judicial and Legal Departments	7,800 1 5	8,257 12 6	—	457 11 1
Police	1,994 15 8	1,376 11 0	618 4 8	—
Armed Native Constabulary	1,187 8 5	1,113 3 9	74 4 8	—
Prisons	2,515 14 6	2,543 12 6	—	27 18 0
Medical	2,790 11 7	2,792 0 5	—	1 8 10
Hospital and Lunatic Asylum	1,281 17 11	1,341 18 9	—	60 0 10
Education	1,003 17 4	982 17 7	20 19 9	—
Transport	1,150 13 2	1,072 10 11	78 2 3	—
Miscellaneous	8,803 17 1	2,377 11 10	6,426 5 3	—
Lands, Works, and Survey Department	1,420 10 1	1,059 6 2	361 3 11	—
Public Works Recurrent	3,774 0 10	2,635 8 3	1,138 12 7	—
	67,209 19 2	60,677 13 8	9,330 14 10	2,798 9 4
Public Works Extraordinary	609 18 5	148 12 10	461 5 7	—
Total Expenditure	67,819 17 7	60,826 6 6	9,792 0 5	2,798 9 4

The total expenditure in the first instance exceeded that of the previous year by only 46*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*, but after adding the extraordinary expenditure before mentioned of 6,846*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.* the increase over the expenditure of the previous year amounted to 6,993*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*

The expenditure on personal emoluments and other charges respectively has during the past two years been as follows:—

———	Year 1890.	Year 1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Personal Emoluments	30,733 1 11	31,902 7 7
Other charges	30,093 4 7	35,917 10 0
Total	60,826 6 6	67,819 17 7

II.—Assets and Liabilities.

The assets and liabilities of the Colony at 31st December 1891 were as follows:—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on the 31st of December 1891. FIJI. 1891.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
PUBLIC TRUST ACCOUNT.						
Fixed Deposits at Interest on 31st December 1891	25,216	3	1			
Union Bank Credit Balance on 31st December 1891	487	12	7			
Cash in hand on 31st December 1891	101	0	9			
				25,804	16	5
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' INTRODUCTION FUND.						
Fixed Deposits at Interest on 31st December 1891	8,220	0	0			
Emigration Agent, Calcutta, Credit Balance on 31st December 1891	1,158	14	6			
Union Bank Credit Balance on 31st December 1891	1,164	19	0			
				10,543	13	6
INTESTATE AND VACANT ESTATES ACCOUNT.						
Fixed Deposits at Interest on 31st December 1891	1,200	0	0			
Union Bank Credit Balance on 31st December 1891	99	4	4			
				1,299	4	4
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' RETURN PASSAGES FUND.						
Fixed Deposits at Interest on 31st December 1891	25,889	17	3			
Union Bank Credit Balance on 31st December 1891	18	7	3			
				25,908	4	6
PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.						
Fixed Deposits at Interest on 31st December 1891	9,222	1	6			
Moneys received in January 1892, but accounted for in December 1891	1,368	8	5			
Union Bank Credit Balance on 31st December 1891	1,788	0	4			
				12,378	10	3
DECEASED IMMIGRANTS' SUSPENSE ACCOUNT.						
Fixed Deposits at Interest on 31st December 1891	165	8	0			
Union Bank Credit Balance on 31st December 1891	87	7	2			
				252	15	2
Revenue paid into Public Account after 31st December 1891, but which forms part of the Revenue of the Colony for 1891				5,815	10	11
Immigration Department.—Amount due to the Department, 31st December 1891				5,430	3	10
Advance Account.—Advances made and recoverable				225	19	10
Deposit Account.—Amounts recoverable				9	17	0
Crown Agents' Credit Balance, 30th November, 1891				260	19	8
Advance from Public Account against Suva Works Advance (*Ordinance No. XX of* 1882 *and No. XVIII of* 1888)				11,437	17	3
Public Account.— Credit Balance, Bank of New Zealand, 31st December 1891				2,780	1	7
				102,147	14	3
Excess of Liabilities				8,174	10	1
			£	110,322	4	4

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
PUBLIC TRUST ACCOUNT.						
Wages and Return-passage money of Polynesian Immigrants				25,804	16	5
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' INTRODUCTION FUND.						
Amount standing to credit of above Account	10,525	19	6			
Cheques outstanding on the 31st December 1891	17	14	0			
				10,543	13	6
INTESTATE AND VACANT ESTATES ACCOUNT.						
Amount standing to credit of above Account				1,299	4	4
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' RETURN-PASSAGES FUND.						
Amount standing to credit of above Account				25,908	4	6
PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.						
Amount standing to credit of above Account	11,892	16	8			
Cheques outstanding on 31st December 1891	485	13	7			
				12,378	10	3
DECEASED IMMIGRANTS' SUSPENSE ACCOUNT.						
Amount standing to credit of above Account	248	8	8			
Cheques outstanding on 31st December 1891	4	6	6			
				252	15	2
Advance Account.—Amount to be refunded				2	4	0
Deposit Account.—Amounts payable				2,095	1	1
Capital Sum, proceeds of the sale of Native Lands on which interest at 5 per cent. per annum is paid by the Crown to the Native Owners				2,734	13	4
Special Advance from Indian Immigrants' Return-passages Fund in 1887				4,339	10	0
Amount chargeable to the General Expenditure of the Colony under Suva Works (*Ordinance No. XX of* 1882 *and Ordinance No. XVIII of* 1888)				11,437	17	3
Public Account.—Cheques outstanding on 31st December 1891				13,525	14	6
			£	110,322	4	4

The excess of liabilities (exclusive of public debt) over assets has been reduced to 8,174*l* 10*s.* 0*d.*

III.—PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt has been reduced by the statutory liquidation during the year. At 31st December 1891 it amounted to 246,689*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*

This is equal to the revenue of about three and a half years.

The following statement gives details of the amounts borrowed and of the manner in which they were expended :—

Public Debt.

Debts.	To whom due.	Rate of Interest.	When incurred and for what Cause.	Provision for Payment of Interest or Sinking Fund, and Enactments by which it is made.	Amount of Original Debt.	Amount repaid.	Remarks.
£ s. d. 104,025 7 11	Imperial Government.	Without interest.	Imperial Grant in aid of local revenue during the two years succeeding Annexation. There were defrayed therefrom the expenses incident to the Cession of the Colony, the establishment of British Government therein; and the returning to their homes in the New Hebrides and Solomon Groups of the immigrant labourers introduced before Annexation.	To be repaid when the circumstances of the Colony will permit.	£ s. d. 104,025 7 11	£ s. d. Nil.	—
11,364 6 7	Do.	Do.	Imperial Grant in payment of compensation to German subjects in respect of certain of their claims to land in Fiji disallowed by the Lands Commission, *plus* expenses connected with the Mixed Commission appointed to inquire into the disallowance of these claims.	Do.	11,364 6 7	Nil.	—
131,300 0 0	Debentures -	4½ per cent. -	Under Ordinance XIII. of 1880. For general purposes and to pay debts incurred by late Government. Expended as follows:— £ s. d. 1. Payment of liabilities of the late so-called Government of the Fiji Islands - - - 100,000 0 0 2. Suva Works - - - 19,966 15 7 3. Lighthouses - - - 93 14 7 4. Coolie Immigration - - 13,753 13 2 5. Levuka Pier - - - 1,289 2 10 6. Expenses of the Commission appointed by the Imperial Government to inquire into claims to land - - - 10,000 0 0 7. Balance transferred to Public Account (to assist in meeting further expenditure on light-houses) - - - - 4,896 13 10 £150,000 0 0	Half-yearly appropriation out of the General Revenue and Assets of the Colony of a sum equal to one half-year's interest on the whole of the debentures previously issued, including any that may have been redeemed; and a similar half-yearly appropriation by way of a sinking fund of ten shillings per cent. on the total nominal amount of all debentures issued on or before the first day of each half-year including any which may have been redeemed. The amount is drawn by the Crown Agents. Ordinance No. XIII, of 1880 provides for these payments.	150,000 0 0	18,700 0 0	—

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IV.—Municipalities and other Local Bodies.

These consist, as heretofore, of the town board and the school board of Suva, and of the town board and the school board of Levuka.

The gross revenue and expenditure of these boards during the year 1891 has been as follows:—

	Revenue derived from Taxation.	Total Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Suva Town Board - -	1,226 9 4	1,417 14 4	1,412 17 3
Levuka Town Board - -	584 14 4	937 4 10	1,170 18 6
Total, Municipal Boards -	1,811 3 8	2,354 19 2	2,583 17 9
Suva School Board - -	270 18 2	507 4 10	494 8 6
Levuka School Board - -	275 0 0	477 5 3	479 14 10
Total, Educational Boards -	545 18 2	984 10 1	974 2 6
Total -	2,357 1 10	3,339 9 3	3,558 0 3

The town boards are elected by ballot by the ratepayers and hold office for three years. One half of the members of each school board is similarly elected, and the other half is appointed by the Governor for a period of three years.

Education within the districts of the school boards is free and compulsory as regards children between the ages of five and 14 years. Government educational grants amounted in the year 1891 to 384*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

V.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The public works undertaken during the year and the cost thereof have been as follows:—

Description of work, and where situated.	Whether constructing or under repair.	If finished, actual amount of Expenditure in Pounds Sterling.
		£ s. d.
Roads, bridges, and culverts:—		
Cakobau and Suva Point Roads.	Constructing and repairing	179 16 2
Roads, Colo	Do.	100 2 11
		279 19 1
Wharfs:—		
Suva	Repairs	1,035 6 3
Levuka	Do.	19 19 9
		1,055 6 0
Repairs and additions to Government buildings throughout the Colony, viz:—		
Government House	Do.	215 15 7
Government offices	Do.	368 4 7
Police station	Do.	155 11 0
Magistrates' quarters	Do.	134 3 4
Bond, Suva and Levuka, and Post Office	Do.	73 14 3
Medical Officers' quarters	Do.	176 8 2
Court-house and Government House, Levuka	Do.	60 0 0
Gaols	Do.	150 14 2
Hospital, Suva	Do.	324 10 5
Lunatic Asylum	Do.	44 9 11
Armed Native Constabulary	Do.	40 0 6
Furniture and incidentals	Do.	96 1 6
Lighthouses and signal station	Do.	170 15 11
Quarantine station, Makuluva Island	Constructing	259 15 0
		2,270 4 4
Water supply, Suva	Repairs and extension	95 12 3
Botanic station		116 3 4
		3,817 5 0

VI.—Legislation.

The following is a list of the Ordinances that have been passed by the Legislative Council during the year :—

Ordinances.

1891. 31st March -	No. I.—To authorise the expenditure of Three thousand eight hundred and sixty-six pounds six shillings and nine pence for the service of the year ending the thirty-first day of December one thousand eight hundred and ninety in excess of the amount already sanctioned by Ordinance.
Do. -	No. II.—To amend and consolidate the Law relating to Indian Immigration.
20th July -	No. III.—To codify the Law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes.
4th December -	No. IV.—For the better Regulation of Contracts and Dealings with Natives of the Colony and for other purposes.
Do.	No. V.—To prohibit the Erection and Repair of Buildings of Inflammable Material within Towns.
Do.	No. VI.—To amend "The Arms Ordinance 1883."
Do.	No. VII.—For the Establishment and Regulation of Native Markets.
8th December -	No. VIII.—To amend the Law with respect to the Falsification of Accounts.
Do.	No. IX.—To amend Ordinance No. XXXV. of 1876, intituled "An Ordinance for the better Regulation of Native Affairs."
16th December	No. X.—To provide for the Establishment of a Government Savings Bank.
Do.	No. XI.—For the Prevention of Contagious Diseases in Stock.
Do.	No. XII.—To declare the Supreme Court to be a Colonial Court of Admiralty, and to provide for the exercise by such Court of Admiralty Civil Jurisdiction.
Do.	No. XIII.—To amend "The Criminal Procedure Ordinance 1875."
19th December	No. XIV.—To declare the Law relating to the Property of Married Women.
Do.	No. XV.—To provide for the Medical Care of Immigrants and Native Labourers.
14th December	No. XVI.—To appropriate a sum not exceeding Sixty-seven thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight pounds nineteen shillings and four pence for the service of the year ending the thirty-first day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.

1891. 19th December	No. XVII.—To amend "The Public Education Ordinance 1890."
Do.	No. XVIII.—To prevent the Introduction into the Colony of Parasitic Disease of Trees and Plants.
Do.	No. XIX.—To amend "The Foreign Animals Importation Ordinance 1886."

Ordinance No. II. collects into one enactment of 220 sections the numerous laws previously in force in the Colony on the subject of Indian Immigration.

Ordinance No. III. assimilates the law of the Colony to that of England and of the majority of the Colonies on the subject of bills of exchange, cheques, and promissory notes.

Ordinance No. XIV. enacts what is practically the law of England on the subject of the property of married women.

VII.—Civil Establishments.

The following are the principal alterations that took place during the year:—

Mr. Joseph Ogilvie Forth was appointed to be Colonial Auditor, vice Mr. D. J. Chisholm, who vacated office.

Mr. Edgar Charles Turner was appointed to be Postmaster, Levuka, vice Mr. J. W. Groom, who resigned on account of ill-health.

Mr. Walter Sinclair Carew, Resident Commissioner of Colo East and Stipendiary Magistrate of Rewa, was appointed to be also Roko Commissioner of Naitasiri (vice Ratu Peni Panoa, suspended).

Mr. H. E. Leefe was appointed to act as Resident Commissioner of Rotumah, vice Mr. Francis Fuller, absent on leave.

Four European officers resigned, and one vacated his office during the year.

Four native officers resigned, four died, eight were dismissed, and two suspended.

Leave of absence was granted to three officers during the year.

Thirty-four officers gave security in the aggregate sum of 6,900*l.* for the due discharge of their duties.

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The name of Alexander R. Mackay, late Resident Commissioner of Rotumah, was, on account of ill-health, added to the pension list with an allowance of 101*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum.

VIII.—Population.

The estimated population at 31st December 1891 is shown in the following statement:—

	Whites.		Coloured Population.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Europeans -	1,327	764	—	—	1,327	764
Half-castes -	—	—	542	550	542	550
Indians - -	—	—	5,415	2,674	5,415	2,674
Chinese -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polynesians -	—	—	2,079	382	2,079	382
Rotumans -	—	—	1,056	1,163	1,056	1,163
Fijians - -	—	—	57,353	51,618	57,353	51,618
Others -	—	—	209	270	209	270
Total -	1,327	764	66,654	56,657	67,981	57,421
					125,402	

IX.—Immigration.

The introduction and return of Indian and Polynesian Immigrant labourers have been as follows during the year:—

	Indians.	Polynesians.
Arrived - - -	1,040	369
Returned home - -	427	146

X.—Ecclesiastical Returns.

The following statistics are furnished by the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions concerning their work in the Colony:—

Wesleyan Mission.

Churches	914
Other preaching places	354
European missionaries	11
Native ministers	71
Catechists	51
Teachers	1,130
Local preachers	2,458
Class leaders	3,423
Church members (English and Native)	30,256
On trial for membership	5,351
Communicants	28
Catechumens	6,046
Day schools	1,976
Day school scholars	37,175
Day school teachers	2,532
Sabbath schools	1,833
Sabbath schools, scholars	39,167
Sabbath schools, teachers	2,692
Adherents	101,355

Roman Catholic Mission.

European missionaries	19
Churches and chapels	84
Training institutions (European)	3
„ „ (Native)	1
Native teachers	178
European sisters	20
Adherents	about 10,500
Schools for natives	143

XI.—Exchange and Currency.

The average rate of exchange with London during the past year has been:—

At 60 days' sight, 1½ per cent. premium.
At 30 days' sight, 2 per cent. premium.
On demand, 2½ per cent. premium.

The coin in circulation in the Colony is estimated at about 85,000*l.* (eighty five thousand pounds).

The value of paper money in circulation is estimated at 4,000*l.* Paper money is not favoured by the natives, and it is to be regretted that they do not use the smaller denomination of coins, the principal coin in circulation being the shilling.

The local banks will furnish no return on the subject, but it is estimated that the amount on deposit in the banks in the Colony is about 180,000*l.*

The rate of interest given by he banks, which for years stood at 5 per cent. on deposit placed for 12 months, was during the year reduced to 4½ per cent. per annum. The rates charged by the banks for money lent averaged probably from 8 to 9 per cent.

There are two banks doing business in the Colony, The Bank of New Zealand (two branches), and The Union Bank of Australia (Limited).

XII.—Trade and Commerce.

The Export and Import Trade of the Colony for each of the past four years is shown in the following Statement.

Total Value of the Import and Export Trade of the Colony.

1.—*Value of the total Imports and Exports of the Colony, distinguishing between Produce raised in the Colony and Produce Imported for Exportation.*

—	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports:—				
For use in the Colony -	175,155 19 5	188,339 7 1	195,981 6 1	236,529 1 6
*Produce imported for exportation - -	8,065 16 9	1,053 14 0	10,776 3 4	16,519 13 5
Total - - -	183,221 16 2	189,393 1 1	206,757 9 5	253,048 14 11
Exports:—				
Produce raised in the Colony - - -	368,912 7 5	363,227 18 6	353,756 9 6	457,814 10 1
Imported produce exported - -	8,065 16 9	1,053 14 0	10,776 3 4	16,519 13 5
Total - - -	376,978 4 2	364,281 12 6	364,532 12 10	474,334 3 6
Total of Imports and Exports - -	560,200 0 4	553,674 13 7	571,290 2 3	727,382 18 5

* This is South Sea Island produce.

2.—*Total Value of Imports from British Possessions, Polynesian Islands, and other Countries.*

—	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
From British Possessions -	174,244 8 0	186,418 18 5	194,172 14 6	232,757 18 8
From Polynesian Islands -	8,781 16 2	1,179 6 4	8,300 8 8	12,090 17 9
From other Countries -	195 12 0	1,794 16 4	4,284 6 3	8,199 18 6
Total - - -	183,221 16 2	189,393 1 1	206,757 9 5	253,048 14 11

3.—*Value of total Exports to British Possessions and to other Countries respectively.*

—	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Exported to British Possessions - - -	341,446 10 10	335,857 15 6	332,322 8 11	420,783 7 10
Exported to other Countries	35,531 13 4	28,423 17 0	32,210 3 11	53,550 15 8
Total - - -	376,978 4 2	364,281 12 6	364,532 12 10	474,334 3 6

The accounts of imports and exports are exclusive of specie and bullion.

The aggregate value of imports for the 17 years since the foundation of the Colony has been 4,133,934*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

The aggregate value of exports for the same period has been 4,463,511*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*

The value of exports for that period has thus exceeded the value of imports by 329,577*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*

	£	s.	d.
The value of imports for the past four years amounts to - - - - -	832,421	1	7
And the exports to - - -	1,580,126	13	0
Balance of exports over imports - -	£747,705	11	5

Imports and exports form, during the four years in question, the respective proportion of the total trade shown hereunder, viz. :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
1888 - - - -	32·70	67·30
1889 - - - -	34·20	65·80
1890 - - - -	36·19	63·81
1891 - - - -	34·79	65·21

The principal imports and the value of each introduced into the Colony during the past four years will be found in the following Table.

Nature of Import.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	£
1. Bacon and hams - -	1,160	1,414	1,317	1,177
2. Bags and sugar mats - -	4,961	4,785	5,879	6,180
3. Beer - - - -	2,948	2,987	2,298	3,264
4. Boots and shoes - -	2,980	2,897	3,171	3,387
5. Breadstuffs and biscuits -	10,144	16,114	14,086	16,111
6. Butter - - -	1,453	1,271	1,712	1,752
7. Cordage - - -	1,532	1,705	1,509	1,567
8. Cigars - - -	664	727	830	722
9. Coals - - -	5,611	6,550	9,736	10,405
10. Doors and sashes - -	123	290	179	633
11. Drapery - - -	48,075	42,899	37,940	49,902
12. Drugs - - - -	1,863	1,978	2,294	2,294
13. Fish - - - -	1,613	1,999	1,755	1,969
14. Fruits, bottled and dried -	522	564	517	684
15. Galvanised iron and goods -	1,854	2,829	2,916	6,385
16. Glassware and crockery -	1,631	2,334	2,505	3,256
17. Hardware - - -	12,957	14,560	15,293	23,025
18. Iron, bar, rod - - -	404	357	679	920
19. Iron rails and pipes - -	755	554	234	1,452
20. Jam and jellies - -	473	540	450	566
21. Jewellery - - -	883	1,186	1,326	1,046
22. Live stock - - -	4,000	4,001	4,109	6,865
23. Machinery - - -	8,112	4,048	7,121	7,285
24. Manure - - -	2,659	8,132	10,983	7,651
25. Meats - - -	8,282	7,948	9,169	10,793
26. Musical instruments - -	547	335	525	964
27. Oils - - - -	5,280	4,889	6,031	5,667
28. Pickles and oilstores - -	1,734	1,756	1,711	2,367
29. Paints - - - -	1,062	1,911	1,012	2,336
30. Produce - - -	5,868	2,903	4,333	4,205
31. Rice - - - -	8,298	11,451	10,193	11,237
32. Ship chandlery - -	2,039	2,931	2,526	2,716
33. Soap - - - -	1,767	1,585	1,557	2,037
34. Spirits - - -	2,854	2,817	2,758	2,780
35. Stationery - - -	2,148	2,490	2,338	2,669
36. Sugar - - -	27	718	1,292	824
37. Tea - - - -	441	238	123	152
38. Timber - - -	2,839	5,426	4,094	9,362
39. Tobacco - - -	981	1,163	1,240	949
40. Vegetables and green fruits -	2,000	2,866	2,298	1,969
41. Wines - - - -	716	1,166	896	1,190
42. Woodenware and furniture -	2,964	2,746	4,792	4,850
43. Other imports - - -	15,998	9,332	8,802	10,964

The principal increases are in the items of breadstuff, drapery, hardware (excluding items otherwise enumerated), live stock, galvanized iron and goods, and timber.

The principal items of export have been, as heretofore, sugar, copra, and green fruit.

The export of these items during the years 1890 and 1891 has been as follows:—

	1890.	1891.
Sugar -	15,291 tons - - -	20,470 tons.
Value,	244,655*l.* - - -	327,525*l.*
Copra -	4,500 tons - - -	6,445 tons.
Value,	40,499*l.* - - -	59,618*l.*
Fruit -	720,788 bunches - -	784,765 bunches.
	5,777 packages - -	4,418 packages
Value,	57,525*l.* - - -	61,501*l.*

The other exports consist of:—

		£
Beche de Mer, 35½ tons - -	valued at	1,777
Cocoanuts, 13,685 sacks - -	„	3,421
Desiccated cocoanuts, 42 tons -	„	2,360
Cotton, kidney, 98½ tons - -	„	4,858
Molasses, 167,508 gallons - -	„	1,047
Peanuts, 300½ tons - - -	„	5,611
Turtle shell, 17 cwt. - - -	„	1,025
Tobacco, 11½ tons - - -	„	1,082
Wool, 9 tons 3 cwt. - - -	„	865

There have also been small exports of arrowroot, bark, coffee, curiosities, dried fruit, gum, ginger, hair (angora), hides, maize, mats, pearl shell, plants and seeds, sandalwood, tallow, timber, tea, colonial distilled spirits, turtles, and yams.

The principal increases among the minor items of exports occur under the heads of cocoanuts (increase of 1,019*l.*), desiccated cocoanut (increase of 933*l.*), cotton kidney (increase of 2,414*l.*), peanuts (increase of 1,078*l.*), tobacco, and wool.

The countries to which exports were sent from Fiji during the past four years, together with the value of exports to each country are set forth hereunder, viz :—

Value of Exports from Fiji to :—

—	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	
New South Wales - -	54,173	77,887	67,388	64,772
Victoria - - -	109,114	91,549	54,406	66,019
New Zealand - - -	178,150	166,422	210,528	289,992
Total Australian Colonies -	341,437	335,858	332,322	420,783
Samoa - - - -	105	178	135	97
Tonga - - - -	627	251	129	604
Portugal - - -	22,311	4,550	4,685	—
Spain - - - -	12,383	18,460	114	—
France - - - -	—	4,912	27,088	52,576
Other Countries - -	115	73	60	274

Sugar is the principal export to New Zealand, but the export of fruit to that Colony is also increasing.

The import trade of the Colony increased by 22 per cent. from the year 1890, the export trade by 30 per cent., and the total trade by 27 per cent., or a total of 156,092*l.*

The total trade of the year 1891 is greater than that of any year since the foundation of the Colony. The import trade is not so great as it was six years ago, but previous to that time large quantities of machinery and building material were being imported and the export trade was then considerably smaller.

XIII.—NAVIGATION.

The number and tonnage of vessels entering from abroad at the two ports of entry in the Colony during the past four years, have been as shown below :—

Year.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total No. of Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.		
1888 - - -	71	39,750	35	9,829	106	49,579
1889 - -	62	40,892	27	10,328	89	51,220
1890 - - -	60	49,306	19	7,405	79	56,711
1891 - - -	68	57,859	33	11,417	101	69,276

The nationality of the vessels in question was as follows:—

Year.	British.		American.		German.		Norwegian.		Tongan.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1888 - -	99	46,401	—	—	3	1,077	4	2,101	—	—
1889 - -	79	46,005	1	224	1	517	7	4,452	1	22
1890 - -	75	53,337	1	279	1	1,703	2	1,392	—	—
1891 - -	88	62,873	5	1,039	2	1,546	6	3,818	—	—

The total tonnage recorded as having "entered in" during 1891 exceeds that of any other year by 12,565 tons.

Ninety-seven vessels cleared outwards, and their total tonnage amounted to 68,865 tons.

There are two ports of registry in the Colony, Suva and Levuka.

The shipping on local registers at 31st December 1891 consisted of only seven vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 332.

Most of the locally-owned vessels are of small tonnage and unregistered.

The number and tonnage of such vessels holding, at the end of 1891, sea-going certificates issued by the Fiji Marine Board were:—

	No.	Tonnage.
European owned vessels - - -	113	1,739
Native owned vessels - - - -	230	1,609
Total - -	343	3,348

The foregoing statement does not of course include open boats, native canoes, and craft of that description.

XIV.—AGRICULTURE.

It is computed that the acreage of land under cultivation by Europeans during the year was 37,809 acres, under crop as follows:—

	Acres.
Peanuts - - - -	214
Bananas - - - -	2,708
Cotton - - - -	71½
Tobacco - - - -	14

	Acres.
Cocoanuts - - - -	20,666
Tea - - - - -	250
Maize - - - -	299½
Sugar cane - - - -	12,829
Yams - - - -	111
Other produce - - -	646
Total - - -	37,809

The total acreage of land in the Colony is 4,953,920. The area under cultivation by natives is not known, as it varies greatly from time to time.

The number of live stock in the Colony at the end of 1891 is returned as follows:—

Horses - - - -	959
Horned cattle - - -	9,861
Sheep - - - -	6,072
Goats - - - -	3,225

XV.—Manufactures.

The sugar mills and other factories at work in the Colony are returned as stated below:—

Manufactures.

Mills, Works, &c.	Nominal Daily Output.
Sugar Mills.	
1 at Varia, Rewa - - - - -	10 tons of dried sugar.
1 at Koronivia, Rewa - - - -	10 do. do.
1 at Nausori, Rewa - - - - -	40 do. do.
1 at Tamanua, Navua - - - -	20 do. do.
1 at Rarawai, Ba - - - - -	20 do. do.
1 at Deuba, Serua - - - - -	10 do. do.
1 at Holmhurst, Taviuni - - - -	10 do. do.
1 at Mango - - - - - -	7 do. do.
1 at Penang, Rakiraki, Ra - - - -	5 do. do.
1 at Ellington, do. do. - - - -	3 do. do.
1 at Dreketi, Macuata - - - -	1 ton do.
11	136
Tea Factories.	
1 at Davuta, Wainunu - - - -	200 lbs. of dried tea.
1 at Alpha, Taviuni - - - - -	(No return.)
2	
Desiccated Cocoanut Factories.	
1 at Levuka - - - - - -	(No Return.)
1 at Suva - - - - - -	(No Return.)
2	
Boat-building Yards.	
4 in Suva.	
2 in Levuka.	
6	

XVI.—Prisons.

The following statistics of the Central Prisons are given in respect of the year 1891.

The total of the corresponding figures for the year 1890 are added by way of comparison.

Class.	Committed to Prison during 1890.				Total for 1890.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles	Total.	
Number of persons committed in 1891 for debt - - -	—	—	—	—	1
For safe custody till trial, or for want of security - -	61	3	—	64	86
For purposes of penal imprisonment - - - -	662	26	—	688	618
Total - - -	723	29	—	752	705

The daily average in prison during the past four years has been :—

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Men - - - -	191	171	191	201
Women - - - -	9	6	5	3
Juveniles - - - -	—	—	—	—
Total - -	200	177	196	204

XVII.—Crime.

The following criminal statistics show that crime remains about stationary in extent. The figures given for the year 1891 include those relating to Provincial Courts held under the native regulations, which have not been included in the criminal returns of previous years.

Fiji. 1891.

Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the last four years.

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
The number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrates	6,443	4,377	3,612	5,799[1]
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person -	266	242	253	394[2]
2. For larceny - - - -	172	185	156	254[3]
3. For offences against property - -	115	233	155	247[4]
4. For other offences - - -	4,316	2,405	2,400	3,779[5]
The number of convictions in the superior courts :—				
1. For offences against the person -	30	16	19	15
2. For larceny - - - -	9	1	2	4
3. For offences against property - -	8	5	5	7
4. For other offences - - -	—	2	4	4
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In the inferior courts - - -	1,514	1,233	604	1,086[6]
2. In the uperior courts - - -	31	29	9	12

[1] 2,201 cases heard in Provincial Courts under Native Regulations.

[2] 190 Do. Do.

[3] 45 Do. Do.

[4] 110 Do. Do.

[5] 1,241 Do. Do.

[6] 615 Do. Do.

XVIII.—Hospital.

The number of patients in the Public Hospital at the beginning of the year 1891 was -	66
The number admitted during the year was -	603
Total number of cases dealt with - -	669

Of these there were:—

Discharged cured - -	323
„ relieved - -	219
„ not improved - -	27
Died - - - -	49
	618
Remaining in hospital at end of 1891	51
	669

The following table gives particulars of the classes of patients treated:—

Classes treated.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Death-rate Per Centum.
Europeans - -	12	—	—
Fijians - -	324	13	4·0
Polynesians - -	86	16	18·6
Indians - -	237	20	8·4
Miscellaneous - -	10	—	—
Total - -	669	49	7·32

XIX.—Lunatic Asylum.

Seven patients were admitted into the asylum during the year. The number discharged was:—

Cured - - - -	1
Relieved - - - -	2
Not improved - - -	3
Total -	6

Seven patients remained in the asylum at the end of the year.

XX.—Meteorology.

The following returns are furnished by the Government Meteorological Observer:—

Suva, Fiji.—1891.

Longitude—178° 26′ E. Latitude—18° 8′ S. Height above mean sea level—14 feet.

Months.	Mean Pressure.	Air Temperature.							Tension of Vapour, 9 a.m.	Relative Humidity, 9 a.m.
		Mean.	Means of		Absolute Minimum and Maximum.					
			Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Date.	Maximum.	Date.	Mean.	Mean.
January -	29·926	80	73	84	70	9th	87	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 18th	0·775	75
February -	29·795	84	77	88	73	1st, 23rd	91	9th	0·794	68
March - -	29·907	81	75	85	71	16th	90	1st, 2nd	0·802	76
April - -	30·012	81	73	86	70	8th, 27th	92	29th	0·802	76
May - -	30·096	78	72	82	64	29th	87	3rd	0·681	71
June - -	30·080	77	69	82	63	18th	88	28th	0·620	67
July - -	30·071	73	67	82	62	27th	89	20th, 30th, 31st	0·641	79
August -	30·109	77	68	80	2	22nd	90	28th	0·633	67
September -	30·106	79	69	83	61	16th	89	23rd, 24th	0·605	59
October -	30·046	80	74	83	69	1st, 31st	88	24th, 26th	0·690	67
November -	30·009	80	73	83	68	25th	91	16th	0·690	67
December -	29·901	85	74	89	72	8th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 26th.	92	21st, 22nd, 24th	0·826	68
Year -	30·050	79·6	72	84	61	16th September	92	29th April, and 21st, 22nd, and 24th December.	—	—

Suva, Fiji.—1891.

Height of the Thermometers above the ground = 14 ft. Height of Rain Gauge above the ground = 24 ft.

Months.	Amount of Cloud. 9 AM.	Rainfall.			Weather. Number of Days of					Wind. Number of Observations of								
	Mean.	Total.	Max.	Date.	Rain.	Thunder-storms.	Clear Sky.	Over-cast.	Gales.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
January	6	21·02	3·28	20th	29	6	0	5	0	6	8	6	7	1	1	1	1	0
February	4	5·47	3·88	24th	20	1	1	1	0	7	10	3	4	1	1	2	0	0
March	6	18·35	3·75	26th	27	5	1	5	0	6	8	14	2	0	0	0	1	0
April	3	11·86	1·76	22nd	26	7	3	1	0	5	1	7	15	2	0	0	0	0
May	7	1·80	0·34	5th	23	0	0	11	0	1	1	12	15	1	1	0	0	0
June	5	1·61	0·64	11th	12	0	5	6	0	5	2	3	8	5	2	1	4	0
July	5	0·70	0·22	5th	15	0	4	5	0	4	3	6	15	0	1	2	0	0
August	6	4·24	1·50	16th	14	1	0	6	0	4	3	11	9	1	2	1	0	0
September	5	3·94	1·50	12th	17	0	3	6	0	2	3	6	13	3	1	2	0	0
October	6	9·11	2·88	25th	18	5	0	8	0	6	2	6	13	2	0	0	1	0
November	8	4·84	1·32	20th	18	0	0	9	0	2	0	10	16	1	0	0	1	0
December		7·58	2·45	27th	21	9	2	0	0	4	2	4	15	2	0	0	4	0
Year	5·5	90·52	3·88	24/2/91	240	34	19	66	0	52	43	88	132	19	9	9	3	0

Fiji. 1891.

XXI.—Roads.

The following return is given of the roads in the Colony :—

ROADS.	
District of Suva (beyond municipal boundaries).	
Cakobau Road (carriage road), formed for about three-quarters of a mile	¾ mile.
Suva Point Road, near Suva (carriage road), formed for about five miles, running round Suva Point and back to town	5 miles.
Levuka.	
Carriage road outside Municipal Boundary	1 mile.
Bridle roads on the Island of Ovalau	35 miles.
Rewa.	
From Vunidawa to Viria	13 miles.
From Viria to Waidina	3 „
Tailevu.	
From Tova Peak to Nadurulolo	40 miles.
From Namata to Nausori	5 „
Colo East.	
Bridle-track from Nakorovatu to Taulevu	3 miles.
Do. from Taulevu to Narokorokoyawa (the central village of Vitilevu)	21 „
Bridle-track from Narokorokoyawa to Nasauvere	4 „
Do. from Taulevu to Nabila	13 „
Do. from Nabila to Waisomo	2 „
Do. from Nabila to Nasalia	4 „
Do. in Naboubuco	3 „
Do. from Nakorovatu to Taivou	2 „
Do. from Nabukaluka to Veisari, Suva	10 „
Ra and Ba.	
Roads (varying from 12 to 24 feet in width) from Vitilevu Bay to Nadi	100 miles.
Colo West.	
Bridle-paths	150 miles.
Navua.	
Road from Naitonitoni to Raiwaqa	4½ miles.
Road from Naitonitoni to Serua and Komave	30 „
Bridle-track from Komave to Sigatoka and on to Nadi	60
Taviuni.	
Military roads and bridle-tracks	40 miles.
Macuata.	
Bridle-track, Tabia to Dreketi	30 miles.
Do., Dreketi through Lekutu to Bua	25 „

MACUATA—*continued.*	
Bridle-track, Bua to Naboualu - - - - -	16 miles.
Do. Solevu to Wainunu - - - - -	10 „
Do. Naduri to Wailevu (Cakaudrove) - - -	14 „
Do. Naduri to Seaqaqa - - - - -	20 „
LAU.	
On Lakeba, good bridle-road - - - - -	15 miles.
On Vanuabalavu, good road - - - - - -	6 „
On Do., good bridle-road - - - - -	9 „
On Cicia, good road - - - - - - -	8 „
On Totoya, road for foot passengers - - - - -	5 „
On Matuka, do. do. - - - - -	8 „
On Naiau, do. do. - - - - -	5 „
FOOTPATHS.	
Everywhere.	

XXII.—POSTAL.

The following return indicates the volume of correspondence passing through the Central Post Offices during the year.

Statement of the Estimated Total number of Letters, etc. dealt with in 1891.

—	Internal.	External.				Total.
		United Kingdom.		Other places.		
		From	To	From	To	
Letters - - -	182,610	7,400	7,372	36,736	37,678	271,796
Post cards - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newspapers - - -	123,054	25,600	2,329	36,968	9,248	197,194
Book packets, samples and circulars - - -	12,455	458	574	5,693	1,010	20,190
Parcels - - -	—	240	16	—	—	256
Telegrams - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Colony entered the Universal Postal Union on 1st October 1891.

XXIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The trade of the Colony has advanced rapidly during the year.

The green-fruit trade, however, has not increased to any great extent and the profits made from the production and export of this staple have undoubtedly fallen off. This is owing, locally, to

the presence of a disease among bananas which prevents their bearing. The Government have for some time been endeavouring to arrange for the temporary services of a pathologist to examine the causes of this disease, and, if possible, to provide a remedy.

The trade has also been affected by the competition of the Colony of Queensland in the markets of New South Wales and Victoria.

The export of green fruit to New Zealand has, however, doubled within the past four years, as has also that to Victoria. There will always be a sale for Fijian green fruit as the quality of the bananas produced in Fiji is admittedly superior to that of those coming from Queensland, which are often sold under the name of Fijian bananas.

A few of the "Gros Michel" bananas suckers have been imported from Trinidad with the view of seeing whether they resist the disease better than the locally grown "China" bananas.

The health of the European Community has been good during the year. The epidemic of influenza did not, so far as is known, cause any deaths among the Europeans. The mortality statistics for the past 10 years are as follows :—

Year.	Death rate per Mille.	Population.	European Deaths.
1878 - - -	21·5	2,000	43
1879 - - -	16·59	2,109	35
1880 - - -	18·24	2,193	40
1881 - - -	16·84	2,671	45
1882 - - -	16·21	2,898	47
1883 - - -	14 80	3,513	52
1884 - - -	16·54	3,567	59
1885 - - -	14·27	3,433	49
1886 - - -	15·12	3,373	51
1887 - - -	14·72	2,105	31
1888 - - -	16·08	2,115	34
1889 - - -	15·13	2,115	32
1890 - - -	16·99	2,059	35
1891 - - -	9·56	2,091	20

The native community, on the other hand, suffered somewhat severely from the epidemic of influenza.

The number of deaths recorded during the year was 5,496, as compared with 3,929 births.

The high mortality among native children, due for the most part to errors of feeding and nursing, and lack of attention, swells the number of native deaths at all times, and particularly when any epidemic is prevalent.

A full inquiry into the best means of preventing this infantile mortality is now in progress and it is hoped that it will be attended with some measure of success.

J. STEWART,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 97.

FIJI.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 72.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1894.



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1894.

[C.—6857.-47.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 97.

FIJI.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 72.]

Sir J. B. THURSTON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Suva, Fiji,
September 16, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Blue Book for 1892, together with a carefully prepared report from the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I regret that, owing to the great pressure of work in the Colonial Secretary's Office, it has not been possible to forward them earlier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN B. THURSTON.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1892.

1. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

For the fifth year in succession the revenue of the colony has exceeded the expenditure. The revenue and expenditure of each year since 1887, with the accruing surplus or deficit, are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 - -	64,916 2 9	73,150 13 1	—	8,234 10 4
1888 - -	65,018 14 8	58,993 0 5	6,025 14 3	—
1889 - -	63,722 0 6	57,710 2 3	6,011 18 3	—
1890 - -	66,817 5 1	60,826 6 6	5,990 18 7	—
1891 - -	71,249 18 11	67,819 17 7	3,430 1 4	—
1892 - -	71,552 15 2	67,651 12 1	3,901 3 1	—

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The expenditure was divided between "Personal Emoluments" and "Other Charges," as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Personal emoluments - - -	33,488	12	0
Other charges - - - -	34,163	0	1
Total - - - -	67,651	12	1

2. Assets and Liabilities.

During the period of agricultural depression which occurred for a few years prior to the year 1888, the Colonial Expenditure exceeded the Revenue, with the result that at the beginning of the year 1888 there was in addition to the ordinary Public Debt a floating liability amounting to 35,196*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

By reason, however, of economies effected in administration this floating liability has during the past five years been so reduced that at 31st December 1892, it stood at the sum of 4,083*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

3. Public Debt.

The Public Debt was reduced by the statutory appropriation during the year.

At 31st December 1892 it consisted of the following items:—

	£	s.	d.
(1.) Imperial Grant-in-aid of Local Revenue during the two years succeeding annexation, from which were defrayed the expenses incident to the cession of the Colony, the establishment of Government, and the returning to their homes in the New Hebrides and Solomon groups of the immigrant labourers introduced before the date of the cession (without interest) - -	102,985	2	10
(2.) Imperial Grant in payment of compensation to German subjects in respect of certain of their claims to land in Fiji disallowed by the Lands Commission appointed by the Imperial Government, plus expenses of the mixed British and German Commission appointed to inquire into the disallowance of these claims (without interest) - -	11,250	13	9
(3.) Loan raised to pay the liabilities of the late so-called Government of the Fiji Islands (100,000*l.*) and for general purposes (Works, Immigration, &c.) -	129,000	0	0
The Total Debt - - - -	243,236	16	7

The total amount of the Public Debt paid off at 31st December 1892 was 22,153*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*

During the year 1892 the charges paid on account of the Public Debt amounted to 9,343*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*

The first instalment of the repayment of the Imperial Grants-in-aid was made to the Imperial Treasury, the amount being 1,153*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, or one per cent. of the total amount. In connection with this repayment, the Legislative Council has by resolution represented that the sum of 100,000*l.*, in liquidation of the debts of the Government of King Cakobau paid by the Colony from the loan raised by debentures, should be regarded as a set-off against the grant-in-aid of Revenue made to the Colony when first erected (104,025*l.*) and that as the compensation to German subjects (11,364*l.*) was made as a matter of Imperial policy, and not by reason of any action of the Colonial Government, the Colony should not be called upon to pay back to the Imperial Treasury the sum so expended by Her Majesty's Government.

The loan of 150,000*l.*, from which the sum of 100,000*l.*, spent in liquidating the liabilities of the late Government of the Fiji Islands, was defrayed, costs the Colony annually about 8,200*l.* including 1,500*l.* by way of sinking fund.

4. Municipal and Local Boards.

These consist of the Town Board and School Board of Suva and Levuka. Each Town Board consists of six elected members. The School Boards consist of three elected and three nominated members.

The revenue and expenditure of these boards during the year were :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Town Boards :—		
Suva - - -	1,476 5 7	1,465 7 8
Levuka - - -	998 16 7	930 3 2
Total - -	2,475 2 2	2,395 10 10
School Boards :—		
Suva - - -	623 9 7	609 2 4
Levuka - - -	615 13 7	612 16 5
Total - -	1,239 3 2	1,221 18 9

5. PUBLIC WORKS.

The following sums were expended on public works during the year, exclusive of the cost of the establishment :—

	£	s.	d.
Constructing and repairing roads - -	500	6	5
Repairing wharfs at Suva and Levuka - -	955	15	11
Repairs and additions to Government Buildings, viz :—			
Government House, Government offices, police station, magistrates' quarters, bonds, post office, medical officers' quarters, court house and Government House, Levuka, gaols, hospital, lunatic asylum and quarantine station - -	2,568	9	8
Water supply, Suva, repairing - -	29	19	0
Water supply, Levuka, constructing -	735	14	6
Botanic station - - - -	110	11	11
Total - - -	4,900	17	5

6. LEGISLATION.

The principal legislative enactments of the year are comprised in the under-mentioned Ordinances :—

No. 2. "To declare the law with respect to the marriage of Indian immigrants."

This law provides for the registration in the Immigration Department of married Indians arriving in the Colony and for the performance and registration of marriages made in the Colony by Indian immigrants.

No 6. "To regulate the emigration from this Colony of Indian and Polynesian immigrants."

This Ordinance was designed to prevent the emigration of Indian and Polynesian immigrants from the Colony to foreign countries and to possessions between which and Her Majesty's Government there is no convention allowing emigration from India.

No. 9. "To amend the Real Property Ordinance, 1876."

This Ordinance provides that no under-lease for the period of one year or upwards shall be valid unless registered.

No. 10. "For the solemnization of marriages," and

No. 16. "For the registration of births, deaths, and marriages."

Since the date of Cession, marriages have been solemnised and births, deaths, and marriages have been registered

under an Act of New South Wales, which was temporarily adopted as the law of the Colony. The Ordinances now passed provide local laws. This removes from the Statute Book the last of the laws of New South Wales, which were adopted at the date of Cession.

No. 19. "To regulate the supply of spirituous liquor to natives and others."

This law consolidates the several enactments prohibiting the supply of liquor to natives of Fiji, Africa, India, and Malaysia, or of any territory or island adjacent thereto, and to half-castes.

No. 20. "To authorize the reception and detention in Fiji of certain persons when brought there by Her Majesty's naval officers."

7.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

Five European officers and seven native officers resigned during the year. One European officer (Mr. F. C. Fuller, late Resident Commissioner at Rotumah) was transferred to the Colony of Lagos. Eight native officers died, and six were dismissed during the year.

Two officers, Mr. W. L. Allardyce, Assistant Native Commissioner, and Mr. William Sutherland, Stipendiary Magistrate, were absent on leave during the year. The duties of the former were performed by Mr. Basil H. Thomson, and those of Mr. Sutherland by Mr. F. R. S. Baxendale, and later by Mr. H. Monckton.

Thirty-five officers gave security (in the aggregate sum of 6,900*l.*) for the due discharge of their duties.

8. PENSIONS.

The Pension list stands at 433*l.*

One native officer who drew pension at the rate of 6*l.* per annum died during the year.

9.—POPULATION.

The estimated population at 31st December 1892, with the births, marriages and deaths registered during the year, is returned as follows:—

—	Whites.		Coloured Population.		Total.	Population to the Square Mile.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.					
Europeans - - -	1,488	793	—	—	2,281	·294	65	20	22
Half-castes - - -	—	—	544	558	1,102	·142	23	8	13
Indians - - - -	—	—	6,113	2,990	9,103	1·176	223	—	246
Polynesians - - -	—	—	2,075	377	2,452	·316	9	12	85
Rotumans - - -	—	—	1,047	1,160	2,207	·285	79	19	91
Fijians - - - -	—	—	56,725	51,020	107,742	13·92	3,996	969	5,222
Others - - - -	—	—	247	305	552	·076	2	—	—
Total - - -	1,488	793	66,751	56,410	125,442	16·209	4,397	1,058	5,679

The number of immigrant labourers introduced during the year was—

Indian immigrants	1,534
Polynesian do.	214
Total	1,748

The number of those who have left the Colony or have been returned to their homes was—

Indian immigrants	496
Polynesian do.	147
Total	643

The net gain to the population by labour immigration was thus 1,105.

The Native population suffered a decrease of 1,226 souls during the year. The birth-rate of the native population during the year was 38·19 and the death-rate 49·91 per mille. The heavy death-rate is due to the epidemic of influenza and to the prevalence of whooping-cough and local epidemics of dysentery.

10.—Ecclesiastical.

There are six European churches in the Colony, four of Protestant denominations (viz. Church of England two, Presbyterian one, Wesleyan one), and two of the Roman Catholic body.

The missions at work among the natives belong to the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Churches.

It appears from the following statistics that ten-elevenths of the community belong to the former body and one-eleventh to the latter.

Mission Statistics.

Wesleyan Mission.

Churches	979
Other preaching places	334
European missionaries	11
Native ministers	70
Catechists	52
Teachers	1,126
Local preachers	2,081
Class leaders	3,405
Church members (English and Native)	30,961
On trial for membership	5,534

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Communicants - - - -	19
Catechumens - - - -	7,001
Day schools - - - -	1,951
Day school scholars - - -	38,307
Day school teachers - - -	2,417
Sabbath schools - - - -	1,688
Sabbath schools, scholars - -	38,292
Sabbath schools, teachers - -	2,489
Adherents - - - -	99,835

Roman Catholic Mission.

European missionaries - - -	23
Churches and chapels - - -	78
Training institutions (European) - -	1
„ „ (Native) - -	3
Native teachers - - - -	180
European sisters - - -	20
Adherents - - -	about 10,205
Schools for Natives - - -	144
Schools for Europeans - - -	3
Native scholars - - - -	1,950
European scholars - - -	135
European teachers - - -	9

11.—Education.

There are two State-aided public schools for Europeans in the Colony, with an average attendance (mixed) of 146 scholars.

The Government grant contributed to these schools during the year amounted to 614*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*

One native technical school is maintained by Government for the instruction of natives in sawing timber, carpentry, house-building, boat-building, ship-building, and the cultivation of food. Seventy-three native youths were in residence during the year.

The Roman Catholic Mission maintain two schools for Europeans, with an average attendance of 108 pupils.

The elementary education of the natives is conducted entirely by the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions.

The schools of the Wesleyan Mission number 1,951, with an attendance of 38,307.

The schools of the Roman Catholic Mission number 144, with an attendance of 1,950.

12.—CURRENCY.

The average rate of exchange with London during the past year was—

At 60 days' sight, 1½ per cent. premium.
At 30 days' sight, 2 per cent. premium.
On demand, 2½ per cent. premium.

There are two banks doing business in the Colony, viz., the Bank of New Zealand (two branches), and the Union Bank of Australia (Limited), one branch.

The amount of coin (British sterling) in circulation is estimated at 96,000*l.*, and the circulation of notes at 4,000*l.*

13.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The total trade of the Colony for each of the past four years has been as is shown in the following statement:—

TOTAL VALUE OF THE IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE OF THE COLONY.

1.—*Value of the Total Imports and Exports of the Colony, distinguishing between Produce raised in the Colony and Produce Imported for Exportation.*

—	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
IMPORTS:—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
For use in the Colony -	188,339 7 1	195,981 6 1	236,529 1 6	253,265 15 4
*Produce imported for exportation - -	1,053 14 0	10,776 3 4	16,519 13 5	320 5 0
Total - - -	189,393 1 1	206,757 9 5	253,048 14 11	253,586 0 4
EXPORTS:—				
Produce raised in the Colony - - -	363,227 18 6	353,756 9 6	457,814 10 1	434,470 11 1
Imported produce exported - -	1,053 14 0	10,776 3 4	16,519 13 5	320 5 0
Total - - -	364,281 12 6	364,532 12 10	474,334 3 6	434,790 16 1
Total of Imports and Exports - -	553,674 13 7	571,290 2 3	727,382 18 5	688,376 16 5

* This is South Sea Island produce.

The value of the total Imports (253,586*l.*) is but slightly above the Imports of the previous year, but as the value of the produce imported for exportation is less than last year by 16,200*l.*, the

value of Imports for use in the Colony exceeds the corresponding figures of last year by that amount. The value of Imports is higher than that of any year since 1885. The value of Exports (434,790*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*) is less than in the previous year by 39,006*l.*, but is greater than in any other year since the foundation of the Colony.

This reduction is attributable to three causes :—

(1.) It happened that in the year 1892 the value of South Sea Island produce imported and exported was only 320*l.* as compared with 16,520*l.* in the year 1891. Thus the reduction of 39,006*l.* in the value of exports means a reduction of only 22,806 in the value of "exports the produce of the colony."

(2.) The export of sugar was less by 1,587 tons (value 25,393*l.*) than in 1891. This decrease is merely incidental. The operations in sugar in the Colony are extending.

(3.) Copra exported during the year 1892 was valued at 8*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton, the valuation during the previous year having been 9*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.* The quantity of Fijian copra exported during 1892 was 5,901 tons as compared with 5,019 tons in the previous year. There was no export of imported copra during 1892, while the quantity of imported copra exported during the previous year was 1,425 tons.

The value of the total trade of the Colony for the year (688,377*l.*) is less than that of the previous year (727,383*l.*) by 39,006*l.*; but, as mentioned above, the falling-off is more apparent than real, and is owing mainly to the paucity of "produce imported for exportation" and "imported produce exported." If these items, which do not practically affect the prosperity of the Colony, be taken out of account, the resulting figures for the past four years, which represent the imports for use in the Colony and exports of produce raised in the Colony, will be as follows :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	For use in the Colony.	Produce of Colony.	Exclusive of Produce Imported and Exported.
	£	£	£
1889 - -	188,339	363,228	551,567
1890 - -	195,981	353,756	549,737
1891 - -	236,529	457,814	694,343
1892 - -	253,266	434,470	687,726

The total value of the imports for use in the Colony and of the exports the produce of the Colony is thus only 6,607*l.* below the corresponding figures of the previous year, notwithstanding the above-mentioned falling off in the export of sugar and the reduction in the export value of Copra.

The following table shows the countries with which the import and export trade of the Colony is carried on, and the value of the imports and exports from each place :—

Return showing the Total Value of Imports into Fiji from the different countries for the year ending 31*st December*, 1892.

Country.	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
India - - - -	3,088 16 2	260 14 6	3,349 10 8
Line Islands - - -	4 0 0	—	4 0 0
New Caledonia - -	255 1 8	250 0 0	505 1 8
New Hebrides - -	257 15 6	144 8 6	402 4 0
New South Wales - -	125,210 9 0	61,179 12 1	186,390 1 1
New Zealand - - -	21,918 10 2	19,438 4 7	41,356 14 9
Samoa - - - -	9 8 5	—	9 8 5
Solomon Islands - -	0 12 6	—	0 12 6
Tasmania - - - -	15 0 0	—	15 0 0
Tonga - - - -	39 13 0	44 0 0	83 13 0
United States - - -	4,412 2 2	8 6 8	4,420 8 10
Victoria - - - -	7,258 15 8	9,365 5 4	16,624 1 0
Wallis Island - - -	232 11 11	192 12 6	425 4 5
Total - - -	162,702 16 2	90,883 4 2	253,586 0 4

Return showing the Value of Exports to the several countries for the year ending 31*st December* 1892.

Whither Exported.	Value.
	£ s. d.
France - - - -	14,733 5 0
Futuna - - - -	5 0 0
New Hebrides - - -	224 0 10
New South Wales - - -	68,331 11 6
New Zealand - - -	245,076 17 11
Portugal - - - -	16,040 9 2
Russia - - - -	7,998 2 6
Samoa - - - -	55 8 5
Tonga - - - -	4,626 9 6
United States - - -	2,931 5 0
Victoria - - - -	74,767 10 3
Wallis Island - - -	0 16 0
Total - - -	434,790 16 1

It will be seen that during the past year there was no direct trade between the Colony and the United Kingdom, all intercommunication being conducted through one or other of the larger Australasian Colonies.

The following statement shows the extent of the trade with those Colonies, and with the United States of America.

Return showing the Total Trade of the Colony of Fiji with the under-mentioned Countries for the Year ending 31st December 1892.

Country.	Imports.	Exports.	Total
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales - -	186,390 1 1	68,331 11 6	254,721 12 7
New Zealand - - -	41,356 14 9	245,076 17 11	286,433 12 8
United States - - -	4,420 8 10	2,931 5 0	7,351 13 10
Victoria - - - -	16,624 1 0	74,767 10 3	91,391 11 3
Total - - -	248,791 5 8	391,107 4 8	639,898 10 4

The trade with the Australasian Colonies forms 91 per cent. of the total trade of the Colony.

Nothing definite can be said of the exports to France, Portugal, Russia, and Tonga, which amounted in the aggregate to 43,398*l.*

This amount represents the value of the Copra shipped in vessels which cleared from the Colony for the places named. The vessels that cleared for European countries probably called "For orders" at some convenient port in Europe. The vessels by which the Copra was exported to Tonga went to that group for the purpose of completing their lading.

The ultimate destination of the exports of Copra is not therefore known, but it is believed that a considerable quantity of it reaches London, Hamburg, and Antwerp.

Imports.

The following table indicates the nature and the value of the principal Imports during the past four years:—

Nature of Import.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£	£	£
1. Bacon and hams - -	1,414	1,317	1,177	1,218
2. Bags and sugar mats - -	4,785	5,879	6,180	4,432
3. Beer - - - -	2,987	2,298	3,264	2,726
4. Boots and shoes - -	2,897	3,171	3,387	3,661

Nature of Imports.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£	£	£
5. Breadstuffs and biscuits -	16,114	14,086	16,111	18,047
6. Butter - - -	1,271	1,712	1,752	2,482
7. Cordage - - -	1,705	1,509	1,567	1,338
8. Cigars and cigarettes -	727	830	722	913
9. Coals - - -	6,550	9,736	10,405	18,449
10. Cutlery - - -	1,736	1,891	1,769	1,944
11. Doors and sashes - -	290	179	633	430
12. Drapery - - -	41,699	37,212	48,273	48,022
13. Drugs - - - -	1,978	2,294	2,294	2,441
14. Fish - - - -	1,999	1,755	1,969	2,121
15. Fruits, bottled and dried -	564	517	684	606
16. Furniture - - -	544	1,051	1,479	1,604
17. Galvanised iron and goods -	2,829	2,916	6,385	5,911
18. Glassware and crockery -	2,334	2,505	3,256	2,880
19. Hardware - - -	7,795	8,003	10,456	12,978
20. Iron, bar, rod - - -	357	679	920	957
21. Iron rails and pipes - -	554	234	1,452	3,049
22. Jam and jellies -	540	450	566	545
23. Jewellery - - -	1,186	1,326	1,046	1,308
24. Leatherware - - -	1,462	1,557	2,558	2,038
25. Live stock - - -	4,001	4,109	6,865	8,115
26. Machinery - - -	4,048	7,121	7,285	8,251
27. „ Agricultural -	798	1,452	4,400	3,121
28. Manure - - -	8,132	10,983	7,651	10,600
29. Meats - - -	7,948	9,169	10,793	11,844
30. Musical instruments - -	335	525	964	552
31. Nails - - - -	697	862	1,113	1,075
32. Oils - - - -	4,889	6,031	5,667	4,612
33. Pickles and oilstores - -	1,756	1,711	2,367	2,502
34. Oats - - - -	241	375	402	1,489
35. Paints - - - -	1,911	1,012	2,336	1,534
36. Produce - - -	2,903	4,333	4,205	5,163
37. Rice - - - -	11,451	10,193	11,237	10,403
38. Ship chandlery - -	2,159	1,889	2,111	1,622
39. Soap - - - -	1,585	1,557	2,037	1,877
40. Spirits - - -	2,817	2,758	2,780	3,046
41. Stationery - - -	2,490	2,338	2,669	3,051
42. Sugar - - - -	718	1,292	824	1,277
43. Tea - - - -	238	123	152	113
44. Timber - - -	5,426	4,094	9,362	8,594
45. Tobacco - - -	1,163	1,240	949	1,293
46. Vegetables and green fruits -	2,866	2,298	1,969	2,159
47. Wines - - - -	1,166	896	1,190	1,353
48. Woodenware - - -	1,330	1,228	1,426	1,626

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It will by comparison be seen that the importation of the following articles has considerably increased during the past year, viz., breadstuffs and biscuits (duty free), coal (duty free), hardware (duty 12½ per cent. ad valorem), iron rails and pipes (duty free), live stock (duty free), manure (duty free), meats (duty free).

There has been a decrease in the importation of bags and sugar mats (duty free), oils, timber, and ship chandlery.

Exports.

Sugar, green fruit, and copra constitute 95 per cent. of the total Exports.

The export of each of these items of Colonial production during the past four years has been as shown hereunder :—

Year.	Sugar.		Copra.		Greenfruit.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Bunches.	Cases.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£			£
1889 -	13,178	263,554	5,567	38,179	531,008	4,499	42,525
1890 -	15,291	244,655	3,446	31,013	720,788	5,777	57,525
1891 -	20,470	327,526	5,020	46,432	784,675	4,518	61,501
1892 -	18,883	302,133	5,901	49,422	788,100	5,733	62,442

The other exports consist of the following items :—

		£
Peanuts, 379 tons - - -	valued at	7,074
Desiccated cocoanuts, 57 tons -	„	3,190
Cocoanuts, 7,927 sacks - -	„	1,982
Cotton, 33½ tons - - -	„	1,878
Beche de Mer, 23¾ tons - -	„	1,190
Maize 6,668 bushels - - -	„	1,000
Tortoiseshell, 15 cwt. - - -	„	882
Wool, 6 tons - - - -	„	560
Pearlshell, 12¾ tons - - -	„	513

Minor exports comprise curiosities, hides, molasses, yams, tea, arrowroot, bones, cigars, fibre dust, fruits dried and preserved (3¼ tons), fungus, ginger, herbs, jams, lime, mats, plants and seeds, sandalwood, shark fins, sinnet, turtles, yagona, and vanilla.

The last-named item appears on the export list for the first time. The quantity exported was 1 cwt., value 120*l*. The item "cigars" is also new. It is also to be noted that "desiccated cocoa-nut" has risen to be the fifth item in point of importance on the Export List of the year.

The foreign trade of the Colony is shared between the two ports of entry in the following proportions :—

	Port of Suva.	Port of Levuka.
	£	£
Imports - - -	180,479	73,107
Exports - - -	376,283	58,508
Total - - -	556,762	131,615
Duty collected	22,221	10,203

The total amount of Revenue raised by Customs Duties on Imports was 32,424*l.*, which is equal to a uniform duty of 12·8 per centum on the value of Imports.

There were 815 packages in bonded warehouses on 31st December 1892, comprising 419 packages of spirits, 30 of wines, 135 cases of beer, 35 of tobacco and cigars, and 85 packages of drapery.

14.—NAVIGATION.

The number and tonnage of merchant vessels entering from abroad at the two ports of entry in the Colony during each of the past four years are as under :—

Year.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total No. of Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.		
1889 - - -	62	40,892	27	10,328	89	51,220
1890 - - -	60	49,306	19	7,405	79	56,711
1891 - - -	68	57,859	33	11,417	101	69,276
1892 - - -	63	55,307	28	14,137	91	69,444

The nationality of these vessels is shown below :—

Year.	British.		American.		German.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1889 - - - - -	79	46,005	1	224	1	517	7	4,452
1890 - - - - -	75	53,337	1	279	1	1,703	2	1,392
1891 - - - - -	88	62,873	5	1,039	2	1,546	6	3,818
1892 - - - - -	78	62,498	3	1,368	2	1,044	5	3,334

Year.	Tongan.		Danish.		Nicaraguan.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1889 - - - - - -	1	22	—	—	—	—
1890 - - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1891 - - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1892 - - - - - -	1	53	1	474	1	673

The internal shipping of the Colony consists of a subsidized steamer and a fleet of small sailing vessels, many of which are owned by natives.

Seagoing certificates were issued during the year 1892 to 331 local vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 3,320, an average of about 10 tons, but the size of most of the vessels ranges between four and eight tons.

The number owned by Europeans and by natives respectively was:—

	No.	Tonnage.
European owned vessels - - -	90	1,561
Native owned vessels - - - -	241	1,759
Total - -	331	3,320

Open boats, canoes, and boats under two tons register are not included in the foregoing figures.

15.—AGRICULTURE.

	Acres.
The estimated total acreage of the Colony is - - - -	4,953,920
The acreage for which Crown Grants have been issued is - - -	420,375
The estimated acreage of land under cultivation by Europeans is -	35,778
This acreage is under the following crops:—	
Cocoanuts - - - -	19,621
Sugar cane - - - -	11,669
Bananas - - - -	2,284

	Acres.
Tea - - - - -	456
Maize - - - -	380
Peanuts - - - -	306
Yams - - - -	181
Cotton - - - -	30
Tobacco - - - -	67
Other produce - - -	784
Total - - -	35,778

The following extract from the "Fiji Times" of 25th May 1892 relates to the first consignment of Vanilla exported from the Colony:—

(Extract from the "Fiji Times" of the 25th May 1892.)

"We have much pleasure in placing before our readers the Report on Vanillas sent to Mr. Leslie E.Brown by Messrs. Langton, Hicks, Bros. & Co., wholesale druggists, of Melbourne:—

"'Dear Sir,

"'In rendering you the account sales of your first consignment of Fijian Vanillas, I must congratulate you on the prices realised, viz., 22*s.* 6*d.* per lb. for ¾ths of the consignment, and 21*s.* 6*d.* per lb. for the remaining ¼th. Unless the quality had been very satisfactory, no such prices would have been obtained; and, if future consignments are up to the quality now sent, I can see that Fijian Vanillas will command a good price and a great sale. Speaking from an experience of nearly forty years, during which time I have handled considerable quantities of Vanillas, I unhesitatingly say the quality of what you have sent me is equal to any Vanilla grown in the Mauritius or elsewhere. I have now before me the original sample you sent me to report upon. The beans are plump and well cured, and are beginning to throw out splendid crystals. In future consignments it will be necessary to sort the Vanillas and tin them according to their lengths, and care should be taken not to pack the tins too closely.

"'Very faithfully ours,

"'RIVERS LANGTON.'"

Vanilla is a crop that requires no extensive acreage. Experiments have been made in the growing and curing of it during the past few years, and it is expected that the quantity exported will increase materially in the near future.

The following advertisement extracted from the "Fiji Times" of 30th November 1892, indicates something of a new departure on the part of the Colonial Sugar Refining Co. which, by enabling Planters who may be possessed of only a limited capital to

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commence or extend operations, will probably have the effect of increasing the acreage of sugar cane under cultivation.

The plan has also been adopted by another sugar company.

The Colonial Sugar Refining Co. (Limited) offers to pay the following prices for Sugar-cane delivered into their punts at the banks of navigable water :—

For Cane grown under five years' contract from 1st January 1893.

	s.	d.
If Planter supplies his own tramway material, per ton	13	0
If the Company supplies tram line and trucks, „	12	6

For Non-contract Cane delivered during 1893.

	s.	d.
If planter supplies his own tramway material, per ton	12	6

By special arrangement non-contractors may obtain the use of the Company's tramway material.

The Company makes advances on six months' and twelve months' old cane, provided the condition of the growing cane warrants it.

Details as to the varieties of cane approved of can be obtained from the Manager in Fiji.

Smaller or larger areas of land may be obtained from the Company for the purpose of cane cultivation.

R. GEMMELL SMITH,
Manager in Fiji for the Colonial
Sugar Refining Company (Limited), Sydney.

The live stock owned by Europeans at the end of the year is returned as follows :—

Horses - - - -	1,202
Horned cattle - - -	9,462
Sheep - - - -	6,050
Goats - - - -	3,855

16. MANUFACTORIES.

There are eleven sugar mills in the Colony with a nominal daily out-put of 136 tons of dried sugar, two tea factories with a nominal daily out-put of 600 lbs. of dried tea, two desiccated cocoanut factories, ten boat-building yards, and one tobacco factory.

17. CRIME.

The criminal statistics of the Colony are set forth in the following table:—

Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the last four years.

	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
The number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrates	4,377	3,612	5,799	5,509[1]
The number of summary convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person -	242	253	394	357[2]
2. For larceny - - - -	185	156	254	268[3]
3. For offences against property - -	233	155	247	238[4]
4. For other offences - - -	2,405	2,400	3,779	3,511[5]
The number of convictions in the superior courts:—				
1. For offences against the person -	16	19	15	20
2. For larceny - -	1	2	4	1
3. For offences against property - -	5	5	7	5
4. For other offences - - -	2	4	4	4
The number of persons acquitted:—				
1. In the inferior courts - - -	1,233	604	1,086	1,0876
2. In the Superior courts - - -	29	9	12	11

[1] 1,253 cases heard in Provincial Courts under Native Regulations.

[2] 99 Do. Do.

[3] 27 Do. Do.

[4] 45 Do. Do.

[5] 623 Do. Do.

[6] 459 Do. Do.

As compared with the previous year there is a slight diminution both in the number of cases tried and in the number of convictions.

The figures given for the years 1889 and 1890 do not include cases heard before the Provincial Courts established under the Native Regulations.

Fiji. 1892.

18. Hospital.

Six hundred and twenty-one persons were treated in the Colonial Hospital during the year, the class of patients being as shown in the following table :—

Classes treated.	No. of Cases.*	No. of Deaths.	Death-rate Per Centum.
Europeans - -	32	6	18·75
Fijians - - -	250	4	1·60
Polynesians - -	96	20	20·83
Indians - - -	226	10	4·42
Miscellaneous - -	17	1	5·88
Total - -	621	41	6·60

* Includes those remaining in Hospital after December 31st, 1891, as well as those admitted during 1892.

The daily average in hospital during the year was 55·37.
There were 41 deaths in the hospital during the year.

The causes of death are given hereunder :—

Analysis of Causes of Death 1892—*Colonial Hospital, Suva.*

Serial Number in Hospital Register.	Admitted for	Died of
Fijians.		
632–91	Elephantiasis of scrotum -	Embolism, gangrene of arm, acute dysentery.
218	Strumous nodes and ulceration.	Femoral aneurism.
455	Tubercular meningitis -	Tubercular meningitis.
499	Pneumonia - - -	Pneumonia.
Polynesians.		
639–91	Pneumonia - - -	Dysentery.
658–91	Dementia following influenza	Do.
661–91	Round-worms, gonorrhœa -	Acute peritonitis.
65	Sequelæ of influenza -	Asthenia.
74	Moribund - - -	Dysentery following influenza.
75	Do. - - -	Pneumonia.
76	Broncho-pneumonia, after influenza.	Broncho-pneumonia.
77	Dysentery and enteritis -	Dysentery and enteritis.

Serial Number in Hospital Register.	Admitted for	Died of
78	Dysentery after influenza -	Dysentery after influenza.
137	Phthisis - - -	Syncope.
227	Iliac abscess - -	Iliac abscess.
308	Anæmia, pericarditis -	Pericarditis.
370	Dysentery (moribund) -	Dysentery.
382	Tubercular laryngitis -	Tubercular laryngitis.
394	Dysentery - - -	Dysentery.
397	Pneumonia and bronchitis -	Cardiac failure.
429	Phthisis - - -	Phthisis.
519	Albuminuria, multiple abscesses.	Dysentery.
531	Lumbar Abscess - -	Lumbar Abscess.
537	Tubercular enteritis -	Tubercular enteritis.
Indians.		
69	Phthisis - - -	Phthisis.
142	Anæmia - - -	Anæmia.
287	Obstipati, peritonitis -	Peritonitis.
312	Anæmia, mitral regurgitation	Anæmia, mitral regurgitation.
365	Contused and lacerated wound of ancle.	Gangrene, followed by tetanus
373	Cancer of pylorus and liver, bronchitis, ascites, conjunctivitis.	Peritonitis.
420	Abscess of brain - -	Abscess of brain.
426	Phthisis - - -	Phthisis.
469	Anæmia - - -	Anæmia.
506	Do. - - -	Do.
Europeans.		
636–91	Septicæmia - - -	Pyæmia.
319	Framboesia - - -	Senility.
377	Acute alcoholism, malarial fever (moribund).	Acute alcoholism.
411	Moribund, bronchitis, peritonitis.	Peritonitis.
450	Pernicious anæmia - -	Pernicious Anæmia.
488	Cancer of pylorus and liver -	Cancer of pylorus and liver.
Miscellaneous.		
202	Bronchitis - - -	Bronchitis and senility.

Thirteen patients were admitted to the Public Lunatic Asylum during the year. Eight were discharged and one died. The daily average number in the Asylum was 8·12.

19. METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The following synopsis of Meteorological Observations made at Suva during the year is furnished by the Government Meteorological Observer :—

SYNOPSIS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at SUVA, FIJI, during 1892, at 9 a.m.

Longitude—178° 26′ E. Latitude—18° 8′ S. Height above mean sea level—10 feet. All corrections applied.

Months.	Mean Pressure.	Air Temperature.							Tension of Vapour, 9 a.m.	Relative Humidity, 9 a.m. Sat.=100.
		Mean.	Means of		Absolute Minimum and Maximum.					
			Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Date.	Maximum.	Date.	Mean.	Mean.
January -	29·845	83	74	87	70	11th	90	13th, 14th, 15th, 22nd.	0·810	72
February -	29·897	84	76	88	72	25th	94	8th	0·810	72
March - -	29·928	83	75	87	72	13th, 21st, 22nd, 24th	90	30th, 31st	0·810	72
April - -	30·020	81	72	85	67	26th	91	3rd	0·757	72
May - -	30·073	77	67	82	66	16th	87	25th	0·697	75
June - -	30·107	75	69	80	63	10th, 27th	85	4th	0·650	74
July - -	30·112	74	69	78	65	31st	83	13th	0·664	79
August -	30·096	77	71	80	67	1st	87	27th	0·697	75
September -	30·051	78	70	82	63	10th	90	18th	0·722	75
October -	30·040	80	72	84	67	15th	90	24th	0·732	71
November -	29·948	80	73	83	68	26th	87	13th, 23rd	0·732	71
December -	29·865	82	74	85	70	10th	89	25th, 28th, 31st	0·785	72
Year -	29·999	80	72	83	63	10th and 27th June, and 10th September.	94	8th February	0·741	73

Height of the Thermometers above the ground =4 ft. Height of the Rain Gauge above the ground= 24 ft.

Months.	Amount of Cloud. 9 AM.	Rainfall.			Weather. Number of Days of					Wind. Number of Observations of								
	Mean.	Total.	Max.	Date.	Rain.	Thunder-storms.	Clear Sky.	Over-cast.	Gales.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
January	5	11·62	2·59	2nd	23	4	1	5	0	5	0	2	14	2	4	2	2	0
February	5	5·19	1·11	1st	24	12	6	2	0	9	2	6	10	1	0	0	1	0
March	5	15·54	3·57	17th	29	9	1	3	0	5	2	15	7	1	0	0	1	0
April	5	13·48	3·18	5th	19	2	0	5	0	2	0	14	13	0	1	0	0	0
May	6	4·15	0·79	1st	22	0	0	3	0	0	3	11	13	1	2	1	0	0
June	6	5·92	1·64	16th	19	0	0	4	0	0	3	10	12	1	0	0	4	0
July	7	9·42	3·23	2nd	24	0	1	7	0	1	4	16	8	0	0	0	2	0
August	7	4·07	0·72	2nd, 29th	22	0	2	17	0	5	16	6	2	2	0	0	0	0
September	5	8·02	2·10	19th	19	2	2	11	0	1	4	11	7	2	2	1	2	0
October	6	20·00	3·95	13th	21	10	1	12	0	3	5	11	8	3	1	0	0	0
November	7	6·87	3·57	18th	23	1	0	12	0	4	9	9	8	0	0	0	0	0
December	5	10·25	1·90	17th	24	2	0	10	1	7	2	7	11	1	2	0	1	0
Year	69	114·53	3·95	13/10/92	269	42	14	91	1	42	50	118	113	14	12	4	13	0

[7918]. I

The foregoing figures represent the meteorology of the capital. On the leeward side of the larger islands the rainfall is considerably less.

20. ROADS.

The total length of the roads made throughout the Colony exceeds 767 miles.

In addition to this there are Native footpaths everywhere.

21. POST OFFICE.

The number of letters dealt with in the Central Post Offices of the Colony during the year is estimated as follows:—

Statement of the Estimated Total number of Letters, etc. dealt with in 1892.

—	Internal.	External.				Total.
		United Kingdom.		Other places.		
		From	To	From	To	
Letters - - -	216,588	7,858	7,331	44,728	40,354	326,839
Post cards - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newspapers - - -	131,467	28,000	2,223	54,911	8,940	225,541
Book packets, samples and circulars - - -	150,071	503	578	6,004	1,882	159,038
Parcels - - -	—	214	50	—	—	264
Telegrams - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Despatched.	Received.
(Including Registered	2,499	474).

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

A supply of water was laid on to the town of Levuka during the year.

A native market, built at a cost of 457*l.*, was opened in Suva. This building is extensively availed of by Natives who bring produce to town.

A complete distillery apparatus, capable of making 5,250 gallons of silent spirit per week, was introduced by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company during the year.

A sawmill capable of turning out 5,000 feet of sawn and timber (*sic*) per diem was also imported.

In view of the healthy nature of the country, the Colonial Mutual Assurance Company have modified the rate of premium chargeable on lives in Fiji. Policies of insurance have heretofore been subject to a special charge of one per centum per annum in

view of tropical residence. The Directors of the Company have concluded to forego this charge in the case of insured persons who have resided over five years in the Colony and are passed by the Company's medical officer.

A considerable amount of planting of a more or less experimental nature has been done during the year in the matter of tobacco and ramie. Extensive tracts of country are found to be admirably suited for the cultivation of tobacco, both of the Sumatra and Havanna variety. The cultivation of ramie will proceed as soon as a reliable decorticator is produced. The plant has been grown in Fiji for perhaps twenty years and the acclimatised variety appears superior in size and staple to that grown from plants imported from Kew.

It was found in the Botanic nursery, that plants of Sisal hemp (Agave rigida) suckered in fourteen months, the usual time being, it is understood, two years.

Extensive nursery plantations of Furcroea Gigantea have been established throughout the Colony.

Attention was in the course of the year directed to the possibility of procuring plantation labourers from Japan.

Two Japanese Commissioners connected with an Emigration Society visited the Colony "en route" for the New Hebrides, whither they were proceeding in order to ascertain the suitability of that group for the emigration of Japanese labourers.

The wages of the Japanese labourer are higher than those of the Indian immigrant, but it was represented that he would do twice as much work. The matter is still under the consideration of some of the larger employers of labour.

J. STEWART,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

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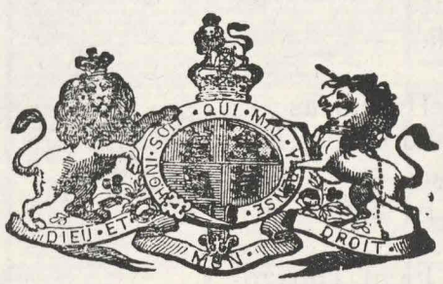
No. 80.

GAMBIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 41.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
August 1893.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1893.

[C.—6857.-30.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
44	Bahamas	1891
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Leeward Islands	,,
77	Bahamas	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 80.

GAMBIA.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 41.]

Administrator LLEWELYN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Bathurst,
May 19, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1892 in duplicate, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN,
Administrator.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

REPORT ON THE GAMBIA BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1892.

The taxes and other sources of revenue remained unchanged and the revenue of the Colony reached the total of 30,977*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*, being 60 pounds less than in the previous year, which showed a larger revenue than in any previous year, so that the satisfactory position attained in 1891 was maintained though not improved upon.

The expenditure amounted to 28,739*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, being 1,042*l.* more than in 1891, but of this the sum of 1,000 pounds was paid for acquiring the powder magazine from a private company, and practically the revenue and expenditure in 1892 were both within a few pounds of what they were in 1891.

The surplus assets of the Colony amount to 19,427*l.*, which is invested in Government securities in England.

The finances of the Colony must thus be considered to be in a flourishing condition.

Public Works.

The most important work commenced during the year was the erection of an iron bridge over Jeshwang Creek, about 5½ miles from Bathurst, to replace a wooden bridge. This has been long wanted and applied for by the inhabitants, but more pressing

demands on the finances compelled the postponement of the work. It is now completed and is a great improvement.

New drains were also commenced in Primet Street, Bathurst, and have now been completed. This work has also been under consideration for many years and I am glad that the finances of the Colony have enabled me to carry them out at last without trenching on the surplus funds.

A liberal expenditure on public works recurrent is gradually bringing all the public institutions into good repair, which is satisfactory, as many buildings required attention which want of revenue in the past had prevented.

Legislation.

The most important Ordinances were those passed as the outcome of the Brussels Conference Act, relating to the storage and disposal of firearms and ammunition in the Colony.

By one of the provisions of the Brussels Act the Government had to provide a magazine in which all powder should be stored, and as the magazine here belonged to a private company the Government had to acquire it by purchase and this was arranged by Ordinance No. 3.

Ordinance No. 4 embodied the provisions of the Brussels Act, and Ordinance No. 7 regulated the sale in the Colony of such arms and ammunition as may be sold, and I believe every effort has been made in this Colony to faithfully carry out the obligations of the Act.

Ordinance No. 6 restricts the loading and unloading of cargo on Sunday and is nearly a transcript of the Hong Kong Ordinance.

As far as I can see it has not worked any great hardship on any owners of vessels and it gives the Clerks a chance of a day of rest.

A Proclamation was issued in January, when active operations were being conducted against the marauding Chief, Fodey Kabba, prohibiting the sale of arms and ammunition anywhere within the Colony.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. R. B. Llewelyn, C.M.G., was absent on leave from the 20th of June to the 26th of November, during which time the duties of Administrator were performed by Mr. C. H. H. Moseley, the Treasurer.

The usual leave of absence was granted to Mr. Lee, Collector of Customs, Captain Hawtayne, Superintendent of Police, and the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, Dr. Finucane, who four months after his return from leave was invalided home and remains absent.

The Colonial Surgeon went on leave on account of ill-health in August, and died in London on the 25th September.

Pensions.

Dr. Robertson, formerly Colonial Secretary and Treasurer of this Colony, died in England towards the end of the year, and also Dr. Percival Kirton. These deaths reduced the vote for pensions by 552*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Population and Vital Statistics.

These statistics are not satisfactory. They only pretend to deal with the town of Bathurst, British Combo, The Ceded Mile and M'Carthy Island, and no information is available about the population in the territory stretching on both banks of the river for 250 miles.

The population is a shifting one. Between November and June Bathurst is denuded of a large number of persons who go up the river to trade, and the figures given by a census taken in the month of April, when Bathurst is abnormally empty, do not represent what should fairly be considered as the real number of inhabitants of the town.

The number of births registered during the year was 391 and of deaths 638, including still births. These figures would signify that the population of the Colony is rapidly decreasing, but I do not believe that is the fact. Difficulties in the way of burial force the natives to record deaths, but the occasion of a birth is easily passed over and soon forgotten, and the natives do not understand the law.

Only one European died in the Colony from malarial fever during the year, and the following were the registered causes of deaths amongst the natives :—Alcoholism 3, apoplexy 1, asthma 4, Bright's disease of the kidneys 4, cardiac diseases 5, cerebral diseases 2, child birth 1, consumption 3, convulsions 14, cow pox 1, debility 3, diarrhœa 31, diseases of the respiratory organs 85, dropsy 19, drowning 5, dysentery 1, epilepsy 3, exhaustion 4, fevers 45, gun-shot wound 1, marasmus 1, measles 3, meningitis 1, mumps 10, paralysis 4, peritonitis 1, piles 1, pleurisy 5, pneumonia 22, poison 1, scrofula 3, starvation and exposure 2, senile decay 10, still births 35, teething 1, tetanus 1, tooth ache 1, ulcers 4, unascertained or ill defined 286.

There were 24 marriages solemnized in the three churches in Bathurst, as against 25 in the preceding year.

Alien Children.

Only 17 alien children were registered during the year, and the total number left on the rolls on the 31st December was 172 of whom 121 were professed Christians and 51 Mahommedans.

Education.

The report of the Inspector showed more favourable results, and the grants earned were 48*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* larger than in 1892.

GAMBIA. 1892.

The following comparative tables show the exact position, and I regret to state there is very little active interest taken in this important subject by anyone in the Colony.

Year.	Number of Children on Books.			Amounts earned.		
	Roman Catholics.	Anglicans.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholics.	Anglicans.	Wesleyans.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888	Boys, 200 Girls, 162	235	528	111 6 4	23 15 0	50 17 7½
1889	Boys, 200 Girls, 162	237	463	111 6 4	48 14 0	64 8 6
1890	Boys, 127 Girls, 142	240	415	135 14 0	78 7 0	60 14 6
1891	Boys, 127 Girls, 142	274	433	151 4 6	76 17 6	48 5 0
1892	Boys, 130 Girls, 137	250	344	156 18 0	83 5 0	84 9 0

Imports and Exports.

The import duties yielded 260*l.* more than in 1892, and the export duty on ground nuts 560*l.*, giving an increase of 820*l.* in the total customs receipts.

The principal differences in detail being an increase in the import duties of 726*l.* for Kola nuts, against a decrease of 285*l.* in the *ad valorem* duties, and 225*l.* for gunpowder. The receipts for spirits duties were 20*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, and on guns and pistols 16*l.* 16*s.* more than in 1892.

The comparative tables given below show further details:—

Imports.

Heads of Receipts.	Amount, 1891.	Amount, 1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ad valorem duty	3,469 19 1	3,184 11 8	—	285 7 5
Import duty on wine	919 10 8	916 19 2	—	2 11 6
Spirits	2,870 5 5	2,891 3 8	20 18 3	—
Malt liquor	259 0 0	312 0 0	53 0 0	—
Tobacco	4,138 3 0	4,027 8 5	—	110 14 7
Oil, turps, &c.	493 16 4	549 12 7	55 16 3	—
Sugar	841 10 1	905 15 10	64 5 9	—
Kola nuts	3,611 18 9	4,338 8 5	726 9 8	—
Rice	754 15 4	675 17 3	—	78 18 1
Guns and Pistols	678 8 0	695 4 0	16 16 0	—
Powder	350 8 1	120 8 6	—	229 19 7
Salt	450 11 2	347 13 10	—	102 17 4
Kerosine oil	92 7 3	124 14 8	32 7 5	—

Exports.

Articles.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ground nuts	19,702 tons Value, 142,933*l.*	21,281 tons Value, 150,206*l.*	1,579 tons Value, 7,273*l.*	—
Hides	1,642*l.*	1,721*l.*	79*l.*	—
Rubber	246,690 lbs. Value, 15,451*l.*	51,614 lbs. Value 2,920*l.*	— —	195,076 lbs., 12,531*l.*
Palm kernels	1,206 cwts.	1,390 cwts.	184 cwts.	—
Wax	1,808*l.*	2,267*l.*	459*l.*	—
Specie	8,885*l.*	6,724*l.*	—	2,161*l.*

The total value of the imports amounted to 169,973*l.*, and of the exports to 172,197*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, which figures are a trifle lower than in the preceding year.

Nearly half the imports came from the United Kingdom, but only one-fifth of the exports went there.

The returns have been prepared in accordance with the suggestions, dated 23rd June 1891, of the committee appointed to inquire into the compilation of the import and export statistics.

Shipping.

Sixty British steamers and three British sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year, and forty-one foreign steamers and forty-two foreign sailing vessels, many of the last small vessels from Senegal, arrived and departed.

The number of steamers shows a decrease, but the tonnage increased.

Prisons.

Great improvement has been effected in the discipline of the prison since it has been placed under the supervision of an Inspector, and also since the visit of Mr. Western from the Imperial Convict Service, who instructed the gaoler and warders in their duties for six months.

The great difficulty here, as elsewhere, is in securing the services of reliable warders.

The following comparative table shows that the average number of prisoners confined is considerably lower than in the two previous years:—

Year.	Total Number of Prisoners committed.	For Debt.	For safe Custody or want of Bail.	Penal Punishment.	Daily Average in Prison.	Number of Admissions to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
1890	59	—	13	44	31	20	2	6
1891	111	—	24	87	37	24	2	—
1892	140	3	30	107	26	77	2	2

The question of building a new gaol is now under consideration.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences, apprehensions, and convictions was nearly the same as in the previous year, but there was a decrease from 40 to 24 in the number of convictions for offences against the person, and there was no serious crime of any sort.

Hospitals.

The hospital had left in it at the beginning of the year 12 patients, and the daily average number of inmates during the year was 12.

A new kitchen, detached from the building, but connected with it by a covered way, was built during the year and gives additional office and dispensing accommodation, with a room for the reception of outdoor patients, inside the main building where the old kitchen was.

In the early part of the year the natives especially suffered considerably from a species of influenza, but on the whole the year was a healthy one.

Meteorology.

I give below the meteorological returns for this year.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS, BATHURST, GAMBIA, 1892.

1892. Month.	Average for month at 7 a.m.			Maximum in shade at 3 p.m.			Minimum in shade at 7 a.m.			Total Rainfall in inches.
	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Dew point.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	
January - -	68·9	62·1	56·9	93	78	85·	75	59	64·2	Nil.
*February - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	„
*March - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	„
April - - -	71·1	65·1	60·6	97	77	86·6	73	62	68·6	0·01
May - -	71·5	68·4	66·1	94	76	85·9	75	66	70·2	1·38
June - - -	77·8	75·1	75·2	93	82	86·	78	69	74·8	3·05
July - -	77·7	75·3	73·7	87	78	84·5	77	73	74·7	14·89
August - - -	77·1	75·2	73·9	88	79	84·1	77	70	73·7	22·65
September - -	78·	76·5	75·4	90	77	85·	79	71	75·1	4·76
October - -	78·	75·5	73·8	89	83	86·5	78	72	74·9	4·39
November - -	74·2	68·	63·	94	80	87·8	77	67	71·8	Nil.
December - -	69·	64·3	60·6	90	77	83·8	73	62	66·7	„
										51·13

* Records imperfectly kept.

1st February, 1893.

The rainfall was a little above the average of the last few years, but 50 inches may be taken as a fair rainfall.

Savings Bank.

The amount of deposits remaining at the end of the year was 1,013*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, being about 35*l.* less than was left at the end of 1891, but the number of depositors nearly doubled, having risen from 79 to 155.

There are between 25 and 30 Friendly Societies in the Colony one of which has 99*l.* 2*s.* 5½*d.* invested.

Government House.

The building is now in fair order, nearly all the rooms have been re-floored and re-painted and it may be considered to be in better condition than it has been for many years.

General Remarks.

On the 1st of January an expedition, consisting of a Naval Brigade formed from Her Majesty's ships on this station, with a detachment of the West India Regiment, attacked the notorious marauder, Fodey Kabba, and drove him across the Anglo-French boundary line. These operations were somewhat prolonged as his influence extended far wider than was generally supposed, and it was not until the destruction of the strongly fortified town of Toniataba on the 27th April that the operations were finally closed. Her Majesty subsequently graciously signified her pleasure that a medal should be granted for these ope ations to the officers of Her Majesty's Army and Navy and Colonial Forces that took part in them. The inclusion of the latter gave great satisfaction in the Colony, and about thirty medals were distributed here in March in this year.

It will take many many years to instil into the minds of the inhabitants, who are nearly all Mahommedans, that slavery in any form is a detestable practice, but every effort is now being made to check the introduction of slaves from the interior of Africa beyond the British Protectorate, and I think the inhabitants on the banks of the Gambia are beginning to realise that the English Government will not sanction the keeping of slaves under any condition, but with a large Protectorate, extending for 250 miles up the river, the work must necessarily be slow and difficult.

Slave hunting is, I hope, stopped within the Protectorate, but the introduction of slaves from elsewhere, with a frontier of 600 miles for the Government to watch, will continue as long as there are people ready to purchase them.

The presence of the Travelling Commissioners who arrived here in January is letting the slaves know they can be freed within our Protectorate, and as this is gradually understood and acted upon it will deter the inhabitants from running the risk of purchasing slaves who may be freed at any moment, and by this means it is

GAMBIA. 1892.

to be hoped the practice will gradually, but I am sure very slowly, die out.

Early in the year a disease appeared amongst the cattle and destroyed all (thousands) for hundreds of miles round here. It will take years for the Colony to recover from this terrible epidemic, and beef is now very difficult to get in the market.

18th May 1893. (Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN,
Administrator.

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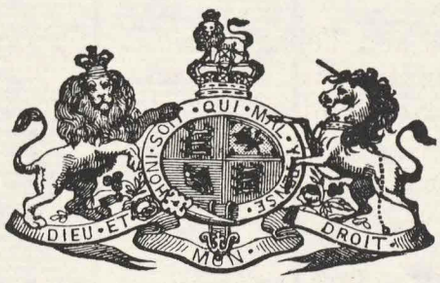
No. 75.

GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 49.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1893.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1893.

[C.—6857.–25.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
39	Bermuda	1891
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889&'90
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	,,
72	Fiji	,,
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 75.

GIBRALTAR.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 49.]

Sir LOTHIAN NICHOLSON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, May 16, 1893.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1892, together with the report thereon of Mr. Cavendish Boyle, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LOTHIAN NICHOLSON,
General and Governor.

The Most Hon.
the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar,
May 15, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit my Report upon the Blue Book for 1892.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
General Sir Lothian Nicholson, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the year 1892.

FINANCE.

Revenue.

The public revenue of the Colony for the year amounted to 1,418,385 pesetas, showing a decrease on the revenue of 1891 of 110,032 pesetas:—

The principal items of decrease are tabulated as under:—

Decreases.

	Pesetas.
Duty on Wines - - - -	1,870
,, Malt - - - -	177
Rates, &c., on vessels (Port dues) - -	89,038
Fines, Police Magistrate's Court - -	1,553
Bills of health - - - -	4,830
Vice Admiralty fees - - - -	4,426
Cemetery fees - - - - -	2,222
Store rents - - - - -	2,907

I 76789. Wt. 10230.

	Pts.
Slaughter-house fees - - - -	1,336
Hospital receipts - - - -	8,163
Postage and Money Order commission -	3,951
Telegraphs - - - - -	2,342
Rents (casual) - - - -	10,864

The principal items of increase are:—

Increases.

Duty on spirits - - - -	9,432
Fees on lighters discharging - - -	687
Sale of revenue stamps - - -	1,982
Rent of cranes - - - -	2,054
„ Post Boxes - - - -	1,584
House rents - - - - -	3,248
North front rents (casual) - - -	3,002
Special receipts (premium on gold) - -	5,455
Paying patients, Lunatic asylum - - - -	1,416

The Comparative Statements of Revenue under the principal headings are as under:—

Head of Service.	1891.	1892.
	Pts.	Pts.
Duty on wine - - - -	72,467	70,597
„ spirits - - - -	169,980	179,412
„ malt - - - -	28,856	28,679
Port dues - - - - -	415,119	326,081
Hulk rates, &c. - - - -	41,913	41,132
Taverns, 1st and 2nd class licences - -	86,598	86,503
Tobacconists - - - - -	8,390	8,887
Fines, Magistrate's Court - - -	6,495	4,942
Revenue stamps - - - -	26,205	28,188
Bills of health - - - -	24,450	24,620
Slaughter-house fees - - -	14,990	13,654
Market stalls - - - -	41,467	41,538
Hospital receipts - - - -	32,028	23,864
Postage and Money Order commission -	200,899	196,947
Telegraph receipts - - - -	20,455	18,113
Ground rents - - - -	153,554	142,689
House rents - - - - -	17,440	20,688

So that in a total decrease in revenue amounting to Pts. 110,032 it will be seen that the items of Port dues and Bills of health account for a falling off of no less than Pts. 93,868

The shipping trade of the world was depressed during the year, hence the decline in one of the principal sources of revenue at Gibraltar. The other items of decreased takings are casual.

Expenditure.

The gross expenditure for the year 1892 amounted to Pts. 1,804,587, but of this sum the following items are special: —

Expended on works at Southport Ditch due to the Colony from the Sanitary Commissioners -	42,407
Works consequent on Major Tulloch's Report due from Imperial Funds and Sanitary Rates -	22,865
Invested (by sale of surplus funds) in Freehold Property - - - - -	230,800
	Pts. 296,072

leaving the actual expenditure for the year at Pts. 1,508,515, against Pts. 1,572,128 in 1891.

The balance of assets over liabilities on December 31, 1892, stood at Pts. 202,057.

There is no public debt of the Colony. The debt of the Sanitary Commissioners secured on the general sanitary purposes rates stood at 56,000*l.*, the amount of their assessment was 10,277*l.* their total revenue was 30,365*l.*, and their gross expenditure amounted to 29,451*l.*

Shipping.

Heads.	Vessels.		Tons.		Crews.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Vessels entered and cleared - -	11,536	9,811	10,665,744	8,753,175	314,191	283,420
British - -	8,163	6,407	8,606,413	6,767,965	240,689	202,767
Foreign - -	3,373	3,404	2,059,331	1,985,210	73,502	80,653
Steam - -	10,209	8,430	10,513,726	8,633,398	305,102	274,679
Sailing - -	1,327	1,381	152,018	119,777	9,089	8,741
	Vessels.		Tons.		Crews.	
Decrease in 1892 -	1,725		1,912,569		30,771	

GIBRALTAR. 1892.

Now these figures show a serious falling off on 1891, the returns of which year gave the following decreases as compared with 1890, namely, in vessels 1,085, in tons 822,949, and in crews 15,870.

As a commercial coaling station in times when the shipping trade is flourishing, Gibraltar has several rivals; in bad times the trade must perforce be greatly depreciated, and it is not easy to find a remedy. Many plans have been proposed, but none have as yet been found feasible.

Exchange.

In a previous report allusion was made to the depreciation of the silver currency of Spain, which is that of Gibraltar. The quarterly rates at which Imperial and Colonial dealings were brought to account in 1891 were respectively Pts. 25·98, Pts. 26·05, Pts. 26·20, and Pts. 26·88 to the pound sterling. In 1892 the returns show the rates to have been for the four quarters as under, viz:—

	Pts.	
First quarter - - -	28·03	to the pound.
Second „ - - -	28·85	„ „
Third „ - - -	28·85	„ „
Fourth „ - - -	28·96	„ „

and there appears to be but little likelihood of there being any permanent improvement in this connection.

The situation was financially a difficult one in 1891, how much more so has it not proved to be in the past year. The cost of living in a fortified town, such as Gibraltar, where, perforce, every article of consumption comes from the outside, and where nearly every article of luxury, and many of necessity, must be imported from England, increases adversely for the consumer and purchaser as the local currency is depreciated and the standard coin of Great Britain is appreciated. And here again it is almost impossible to find a solution to a problem which is exercising the minds of leading financiers in connection with the currency of the largest possessions of the Empire.

The market rates of exchange ruling in 1892 were as under:—

—	Highest.	Lowest.
	Pts.	Pts.
Ten days' bill - - - -	30·52 per £	28·15 per £
Sight - - - - -	30·57 per £	28·19 per £

Legislation.

Six Ordinances were passed during the year, namely :—

The Sale of Old Metals Ordinance,

An Ordinance to enable the Sanitary Commissioners to raise money for certain purposes,

The Civil Police Pensions Ordinance,

An Ordinance to provide for the enlistment of Coast Volunteers,

An Ordinance to provide for the Recognition of Probates, &c., granted in the United Kingdom,

And the Electric Light Loans Ordinance.

Population.

The estimated total population of Gibraltar, based on the Census Returns of 1891 and the natural increment of the people is as under :—

City and Territory	Civil	20,038
	Military	6,012
Port and Harbour		759

Divided as under :—

	Males.	Females.
Civil	9,149	10,889
Military	5,305	707

Registration Returns.

The Registration Returns of the *whole* population give the births at 652, or a rate of 25·31 per 1,000, and the excess of births over deaths at 170.

The total of deaths registered was 482, equal to an average of 18·71 per 1,000. Of the births, 538 were amongst the civilian population and 114 amongst the military. In the death records 443 are returned as civilians and 39 as military. There were 174 marriages, of which 30 were amongst the military population.

But for actual statistical purposes of birth and death rates, the carefully corrected returns of the Health Officer will prove the most reliable. In these returns, the actual birth rate amongst the civilian population is given at 32·31 per 1,000, and the

excess of births over deaths amongst the same appears as 140; the birth rate for 1891 on the same calculations was 28 per 1,000 and the decennial average (1881–1890) was 29·1. The death rate amongst aliens is given at 1·82 per 1,000; amongst the total civil population it was 21·72, and amongst the *fixed* civil population it was 24·31. The rates on total and *fixed* civil population show a decrease on the decennial average (1881–1890) of 1·33 and 1·52 respectively.

The death returns of 1891 were abnormally low and the 1892 returns show an increase in the rate on the total civil population of 2·77 and in the rate on the *fixed* civil population of 3·61 per 1,000.

The Infantile Mortality Returns compared unfavourably with 1891 and with the decennial period of 1881–1890. The averages for 1892 were 183·4 per 1,000 births, for 1891 152·3, and for the decennial period 167·4.

Criminal Statistics.

473 persons were apprehended and brought before the Sitting Magistrate's Court in 1892.

The above total of 473 is made up as follows:—

"Natives" - - - - -	143
"British" - - - - -	53
"Aliens" - - - - -	210
"Maltese" - - - - -	67

The number of persons summoned before, and cases disposed of in, the Magistrate's Court in 1892 was 773, composed of:—

"Natives" - - - - -	386
"British" - - - - -	37
"Aliens" - - - - -	284
"Maltese" - - - - -	66

Of the first total 199 were dismissed with a caution, of the latter 173 were so dealt with. In the added totals 63 were imprisoned in default, 107 were imprisoned peremptorily, 440 were fined, 78 cases were dismissed, 117 were withdrawn, in 3 cases only was whipping awarded, 18 were bound over, and 11 were committed for trial.

Of the cases dealt with in the Supreme Court in its Criminal Jurisdiction, the following returns are given:—

Judgment for the Crown - - - -	6
" " prisoner - - - -	4
Bill thrown out - - - - -	1

Of the convictions—

One was for attempt at murder, 4 for "other offences against the person";

One for "an offence against property."

The total number of persons committed to the Gibraltar Prison was 201, namely: 192 men, 4 women, and 5 juveniles. Four were for debt, 12 for safe custody, and 185 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The daily average in prison was 24·22; the number of admissions to hospital was 7, and daily average on the sick list was ·40. Twenty-one had been once, 8 had been twice, and 57 three or more times, previously convicted.

In the Supreme Court there is also a return of the following "Causes and matters originated in 1892":—

Plenary Jurisdiction - - - -	82
Matrimonial - - - - -	2
Admiralty - - - - - -	8
And transferred from the Consular Courts of Morocco	3

The return of proceedings in the Bankruptcy Court shows that there were two cases heard and pending therein, and that there were 201 documents, &c. dealt with during the year; whilst in the summary side of the Supreme Court 9 causes stood over from 1891, 413 plaints were filed, 190 causes were heard, 36 were withdrawn, 191 were "struck out," and 4 remain over.

In the Magistrate's Petty Debt Court, 1,006 plaints were filed, 265 causes were heard, 99 were withdrawn, 588 were "struck out" and 2 remain over.

Meteorological.

Returns taken at a station in—

Longitude 5° 20′ 53″ W.
Latitude 36° 6′ 20″ N.
50 feet above mean sea level.

Mean pressure, 29·971; mean air temperature, 65·3; mean minimum, 58·9; mean maximum, 70·1; absolute maximum on July 31, 91·0. For the year the mean tension of vapour was 455, and the mean relative humidity was 72.

The total rainfall was inches 46·00. The maximum fall (on the 7th March) was inches 2·43. During 123 days rain fell, of

which 18 were in the month of February and the same in the month of March.

The east wind was recorded during 152 days and the west wind during 133.

Civil Service.

The following appointments, promotions, &c., took place during the year:—

In January.

Mr. J. Bruzon was appointed to a supplementary clerkship in the Colonial Secretary's department. Mr. J. H. Imossi was promoted from second to first-class clerk in the Port Department. Mr. F. B. Planallo was promoted from third to second-class clerk in the same department.

In May.

Mr. E. M. Hutton, Registrar of the Supreme Court, was appointed to the Commission of the Peace. Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Duke was appointed to act as inspecting medical officer and consulting surgeon of the Colonial Hospital.

In June.

Mr. A. Sanchez was appointed Assistant Registrar, and Mr. J. Discombe, third-class clerk in the establishment of the Supreme Court. Mr. J. C. Phillips, second-class clerk, was transferred from Police Magistrate's office to Registry of Supreme Court, and Mr. A. M. Requena from this latter department to that of the Police Magistrate. Mr. R. Giraldi was promoted from third to second-class clerk in the Crown Lands Office. Mr. J. Chipulina was promoted from second-class clerk to first-class clerk in the Post Office.

In July.

Surgeon-Colonel R. Lewer, Principal Medical Officer, was appointed Inspecting Medical Officer and Consulting Surgeon of the Colonial Hospital.

In August.

Mr. A. W. Fawkes, Police Magistrate, appointed to be Attorney-General and Queen's Advocate and Proctor in the Supreme Court of Gibraltar in its Admiralty jurisdiction. Mr. A. M. Coll was appointed Police Magistrate and Justice of the Peace.

In October.

Dr. J. E. Kerr appointed Port Surgeon. Dr. L. L. Vejano appointed District Medical Officer.

In November.

Mr. C. G. Walpole, M.A., Attorney-General of the Leeward Islands, appointed to act as Chief Justice.

In December.

Mr. A. W. Fawkes, Attorney-General, appointed Queen's Counsel. Mr. E. M. Hutton, Registrar, Supreme Court, appointed to be Administrator-General under the Unpresented Estates Ordinance.

Education.

376 boys and 537 girls are returned in the Roman Catholic aided schools, the total Government grant being Pts. 23,216. In the Wesleyan day schools 130 boys and 73 girls are given. In the night schools 29 boys and 25 girls attended, and the Government contribution was Pts. 2,573. In the public school there were 204 boys and 176 girls; the Government grant was Pts. 3,847. In the infant and industrial schools, there were 197 boys and 135 girls in attendance, and the Government contribution was Pts. 3,325. The voluntary contributions for these four respective heads were Pts. 3,715 Roman Catholic, Pts. 695 Wesleyan, public school Pts. 1,652, and infant and industrial school Pts. 510.

Hospital.

The Colonial Hospital was maintained at a cost of Pts. 101,513, or Pts. 16,913 less than last year. The hospital receipts were Pts. 23,864, so that the total cost for the year 1892, was Pts. 77,649, against Pts. 86,393 in 1891.

617 patients were admitted, 502 males and 115 females, whilst 44 males and 10 females remained in hospital from the previous year; 12 cases of smallpox, one of scarlatina, 6 of enteric fever and 2 of erysipelas are returned. There were 51 deaths in all The classification of the cases treated was as under:—

Class	I. General diseases	175
„	II. Local „	381
„	III. Poisons	2
„	IV. Injuries	112
„	V.	1

362 males and 75 females were discharged cured, 87 males and 19 females were relieved. 10,524 out-patients were treated during the year.

Public Works.

The ordinary repairs and services were duly carried out, and, in addition, a Government quarter was erected on Crown property 616, whilst the Southport Ditch Pumping Station was partially restored and the machinery renewed at the cost of the Colonial Government on repayment by the Sanitary Commissioners. Works in connection with new drainage and water supply scheme were commenced under like conditions, and provision was made for repairs and additions to the Supreme Court, Hospital, Slaughter-houses, Police Station and Prison, which were duly completed.

Statistical Returns.

The usual returns will be found in the Appendices to this Report.

CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

RETURNS FOR THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Population.

Census. 1891.		*Estimated.* 1892.	
Civil -	*19,100	Civil -	*20,038
Military	5,896	Military (actual)	6,012
Male	13,906	Male	14,454
Female	11,090	Female	11,596

	1891.	1892.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue,† converted at Pts. 25 to the £	61,136	56,735‡
Gross amount of public expenditure, converted at Pts. 25 to the £	62,885	72,183‡
Customs revenue, converted at Pts. 25 to the £	10,852	11,147
Public debt	—	—
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared	10,665,744	8,753,175
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared	8,606,413	6,767,965
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared	2,059,331	1,985,210
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared	152,018	119,777
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared	10,513,726	8,633,398
Value of total imports	No returns available.	
Value of imports from the United Kingdom		
Value of total exports		
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom		

* Exclusive of port and harbour, 759.

† Exchange averaged Pts. 29 to the £.

‡ This difference of £15,448 is made up, as to about £12,000, of change from investments in England to land purchased for the Crown in the Colony, and of Advances on Account of Sanitary works, repayable by the Sanitary Commissioners. The whole of the difference was paid from the surplus funds of the Colony.

(Signed) CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

GIBRALTAR 1892.

APPENDIX II.

RETURN of the NUMBER, TONNAGE, and CREWS of VESSELS entered and cleared from and to Foreign Countries *viâ* the Suez Canal during the year 1892.

Countries.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
India - -	159	312,630	12,248	61	131,745	8,962
Australia - -	57	167,503	11,053	45	136,199	8,719
Burmah - -	16	24,298	403	1	1,556	48
Straits Settlements -	2	2,663	44	5	9,820	201
Perim - -	1	656	64	—	—	—
Japan - -	19	32,315	803	8	13,229	238
Java - -	19	32,251	494	—	—	—
Manilla - -	19	28,489	501	—	—	—
China - -	2	3,295	93	1	1,417	23
Persia - -	2	2,710	52	—	—	—
Cochin China -	2	3,542	52	—	—	—
New Caledonia -	1	2,667	73	—	—	—
Aden - -	—	—	—	2	4,111	102
Ceylon - -	—	—	—	1	232	17
Hong Kong -	—	—	—	1	1,410	30
Total -	299	613,019	25,880	125	299,719	18,340

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 88.

GOLD COAST.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
September 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–38.]

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
51	Leeward Islands	1891
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 88

GOLD COAST.

Sir W. B. GRIFFITH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

(Extract.) Government House, Christiansborg Castle,
Accra, July 8, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a report—sent to me on the 4th instant—which has been written by the Colonial Secretary on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892. As, through unavoidable circumstances, no report on the Colony has been written since that for the year 1888, Mr. Hodgson has embodied in his paper, as far as he has been in a position to do so, references to, and comparison with, the transactions of the intervening years.

His report affords evidence of the great care, pains and research he has bestowed upon it, and whilst to a considerable extent blending the transactions of four years—1889 to 1892—in one paper he has still kept them, and especially those of the last year, so distinct from each other that they can easily be distinguished. The report appears to me to be complete, exhaustive, and satisfactory, and it brings the history of the administration of the Colony up to the 31st December last, whilst the report is also valuable as containing much useful and interesting information relating to the Colony generally.

I 77970. Wt. 10280.

GOLD COAST. 1892.

REPORT UPON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1892.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue of the colony is almost entirely derived from a specific duty of 1*s.* a gallon (old wine) on wines and malt liquors and 2*s.* 6*d.* a gallon (old wine) on spirits, and from a 10 per cent. ad valorem duty which has been imposed upon the principal imports since the 1st January 1890. There are also specific duties on tobacco, cigars, gunpowder, cartridges, lead, percussion caps, and guns; stamp duties; and a tax upon the sale of liquors.

Until the 1st January 1888 there was an ad valorem duty of 4 per cent. upon all imports with but few exceptions other than wine, malt liquors, spirits, tobacco, gunpowder and guns upon which specific duties were levied, but Ordinance No. 2. of 1877, imposing those duties, was repealed by Ordinance No. 5 of 1887, the chief feature of which was the abolition of the ad valorem duty of 4 per cent. and an increase in the specific duties on wine, malt liquors, tobacco and cigars. The revenue at once fell from 122,350*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* in 1887 to 97,806*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* in 1888, and although in 1889 it rose to 111,386*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* or more properly, excluding the sale of the Government steamer "Governor Maclean," which realized 6,000*l.*, to 105,388*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*, it became patent that the fiscal change was unlikely to provide sufficient revenue to admit of works for the development of the Colony being undertaken, and that it was on that account not a success. Hence the reversion to, and an increase of, the previous ad valorem duty from the 1st January 1890.

In that part of the Protectorate which lies to the eastward of the River Volta the duties upon spirits, tobacco, gunpowder, and guns was, from the 1st May 1890, considerably reduced, and at the same time all merchandize which elsewhere was subject to the ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. was then entirely exempted from duty. It was found that trade was being attracted to the neighbouring Colony of Togoland in consequence of the comparatively low import duties levied in that Colony, and the reduction of the duties eastward of the Volta was therefore a measure of self-defence. It has answered all expectations, the trade at the ports of Ada and Kwitta, and more especially the latter, having increased enormously since the step was taken.

From the 28th June 1892, the duty upon gin, which from the 1st May 1890, had eastward of the River Volta been 6*d.* per old wine gallon, was reduced to 5½*d.*, while the duty on brandy and other spirits was increased from 4*d.* to 5½*d.*

For the better prevention of fraud and embezzlement all fees and fines have since the 1st October 1889 been paid by means of stamps.

The total Revenue of the Colony in each of the undermentioned years was as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1889 - - - - - -	111,388	6	7
1890 - - - - - -	156,449	0	10
1891 - - - - - -	186,020	11	9
1892 - - - - - -	183,074	11	1

The items of Revenue for each year can perhaps best be shown as follows :—

Items of Revenue.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Duties on Wines, Spirits, Tobacco, Guns, &c. (Specific).	95,371 2 9	110,619 5 6	133,550 3 8	133,448 1 10
Duty on General Merchandise (ad valorem).	—	22,728 18 7	32,445 17 9	28,322 15 0
Liquor licences - -	4,000 0 0	3,905 0 0	5,185 0 0	5,597 10 0
Stamps (Postal, Telegraph, and Revenue).	2,769 10 6	5,564 17 4	6,410 5 5	6,686 9 5
Other items - - -	*9,247 13 4	†13,630 19 5	‡8,430 4 11	§9,019 14 10
Total Revenue £	111,388 6 7	156,449 0 10	186,021 11 9	183,074 11 1

* Includes 6,000*l.* for sale of s.s. "Governor Maclean" and 1,890*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.* interest on investments.

† Includes Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court 4,221*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* and 1,910*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, interest on investments.

‡ Includes Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court 1,760*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* and 2,652*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, interest on investments.

§ Includes Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court 1,833*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* and 4,095*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, interest on investments.

It does not appear that the imposition of a 10 per cent. ad valorem duty has in any way hampered the trade of the Colony in goods subject to that tax. The tax is a very proper tax, because it reaches every person in the Colony in a manner which is not felt. A man has to pay only a few more pence upon the cloths or other articles which he purchases for himself and his family, and his contribution to the maintenance of peace, order, and

good government is accomplished, unless of course he desires to contribute further by purchasing articles paying specific duties which are not necessities of life. There is no other way by which the native can so easily be reached. Direct taxation in this Colony is impossible excepting in the towns. There such taxation lies ready for municipal purposes when the time arrives for the formation of municipalities.

The population of the Colony being 1,473,882 and the Revenue from taxes in 1892 being 178,978*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*, that is to say, 183,074*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* less 4,095*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* the interest on invested moneys, it follows that the taxation amounts to 2*s.* 5*d.* per head. It is clear, therefore, that the natives of the Gold Coast have, in comparison with the population of other countries all over the world, a very light burden of taxation, and are wholly without any just grounds for complaint in that respect. In Sierra Leone and Lagos the taxation per head is very much higher, in the former nine times, and in the latter seven times, as high.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure in each of the undermentioned years has been as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1889 - - - - -	125,002	12	8
1890 - - - - -	117,899	4	6
1891 - - - - -	133,406	13	10
1892 - - - - -	158,103	16	9

The following table gives the Revenue and Expenditure since the separation of Lagos from the Colony in 1886:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	To Credit of Colony.	To Debit of Colony.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1887 - -	122,350 10 6	139,443 2 3	—	17,092 11 9
1888 - -	97,806 19 5	133,467 16 11	—	35,660 17 6
1889 - -	111,388 6 7	125,002 12 8	—	13,614 6 1
1890 - -	156,449 0 10	117,899 4 6	38,549 16 4	—
1891 - -	186,021 11 9	133,406 13 10	52,614 17 11	—
1892 - -	183,074 11 1	158,103 16 9	24,970 14 4	—

On the 1st January 1891 there was a sum of 75,181*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* standing to the credit of the Colony which was increased to

127,796*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* on the 1st January 1892 and to 152,766*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* on the 1st January 1893, as shown by the following figures :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance to the credit of the Colony on the 1st January 1891 - - -				75,181	4	4
Revenue 1891 - -	186,021	11	9			
Expenditure - -	133,406	13	10			
Balance to carry forward - - -				£52,614	17	11
Balance to credit of the Colony on the 1st January 1892 - - -				127,796	2	3
Revenue 1892 - -	183,074	11	1			
Expenditure - -	158,103	16	9			
Balance to carry forward - -				£24,970	14	4
Balance to the credit of the Colony on the 1st January 1893 - - -				£152,766	16	7

Public Debt

The Colony has no public debt.

Local Revenue.

None. Hitherto there has been a general consensus of opinion on the part of the native population against the imposition of local taxes. An Ordinance (No. 4 of 1889) was passed to admit of the formation of municipalities at Cape Coast and other towns where the adoption of a municipal system of local government might appear to be desirable ; but in this direction no action has as yet been taken, on account of the objection to local taxation.

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The Imperial troops were withdrawn from the Colony at the end of the year 1890. There is a large constabulary force in the colony consisting of—

(a.) The military, or Hausa, constabulary the authorised establishment of which is 940 of all ranks and

(b.) The civil police with an authorised establishment of 442 of all ranks.

The headquarters of both branches are at Accra, and the whole force is under the control of the Inspector-General.

The cost of Constabulary has been as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
1889 - - - - -	33,308	0	10
1890 - - - - -	31,466	12	8
1891 - - - - -	35,515	2	2
1892 - - - - -	35,550	16	6

The Hausa Constabulary is almost wholly composed of natives of the Hausa country, a territory which forms part of the empire of Sokoto, situated some 500 miles north-east of the Gold Coast. They are armed with Martini-Henri rifles, and 94 of the men have been instructed in the use of seven-pounder R.M.L. guns as well as the Maxim, Nordenfelt and Gatling guns. A detachment of the force under Colonel Scott, C.B., the Inspector-General, took part in 1892 in the expedition against the Jebus, a tribe in the hinterland of the Colony of Lagos, and behaved, as they have always done, with great bravery and efficiency. For this well-conducted, cheap, and expeditiously carried out campaign Colonel Scott was made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Detachments of the force are quartered at Elmina, Kwitta and Prahsu.

The civil police are armed with long Snider rifles. They are, however, employed almost entirely on civil duties in the towns and villages of the Colony.

A volunteer corps consisting of 100 men was during 1892 formed by the Government in the town of Accra. It consists principally of the Native clerks in the Government and merchants' offices and is armed with the Snider carbine. It is proposed to obtain and issue to them Martini-Henri rifles. The annual expense of the Volunteer Corps is estimated at 324*l.* 10*s.*

PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on Public Works of all kinds during the last four years has been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1889 - - - - -	11,655	11	11
1890 - - - - -	8,946	7	11
1891 - - - - -	14,105	13	2
1892 - - - - -	16,608	16	3

In 1889 and 1890 the streets of the town of Saltpond were placed in thorough order and drained, and the construction of a large reservoir for the storage of fresh water for the use of the inhabitants is in hand as well as the erection of a Queen's warehouse.

In 1892 the Public Works yard and store at Accra, which has been constructed for the purpose of concentrating stores and the preparation of timber and forage work for Public Works, was completed; and corrugated iron market sheds were erected in the town of Accra.

LEGISLATION.

There has been a vast quantity of legislation of an important character during the last four years. The principal Ordinances are the following :—

1889.

No. 2. To provide for the collection of judicial and other fees and fines by stamps.

No. 4. To provide for the establishment of town councils in the towns of the Colony.

No. 7. To provide for the construction, regulation, and protection of telegraph lines.

No. 9. To demonetize gold dust and nuggets.

No. 12. For granting certain stamp duties.

No. 19. To provide for the more speedy and effectual punishment of perjury.

No. 20. To provide more effectual means for preventing and dealing with certain frauds upon insurers.

No. 23. To amend the Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance 1878.

No. 25. To amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance 1887.

1890.

No. 1. To reduce for the time being the duties of customs payable on certain imports into those parts of the Colony and Protected Territories lying to the eastward of the River Volta.

No. 10. To prevent the disclosure of official documents and information.

1891.

No. 3. To reduce for the time being the duties of customs payable on certain imports in those parts of the Colony and Protected Territories lying to the eastward of the River Volta.

No. 9. To amend the law relating to burials and the regulation of cemeteries.

1892.

No. 3. To carry out the general Act of the Brussels Conference, 1890, and to regulate the importation into and the storage and disposal of firearms, ammunition, and gunpowder in the Gold Coast Colony.

No. 4. To regulate dealing in firearms, arms, and gunpowder.

No. 5. To change the duties of Customs payable on certain imports into those parts of the Colony and protected territories lying to the eastward of the River Volta.

No. 9. To restrict the loading and unloading of cargo on Sundays in the waters of the Colony.

No. 11. To amend the law relating to native customs and the exhibition of company flags and tribal emblems.

No. 12. To establish a code of offences punishable on summary conviction and on information.

No. 13. For better regulating towns and promoting the Public Health.

No. 14. To regulate the dispensing and sale of drugs and poisons.

No. 16. To amend the Cemeteries Ordinance 1890.

No. 17. To amend the Gold Coast Volunteer Force Ordinance 1884.

No. 19. To establish a Public Officers' Guarantee Fund.

The passing of Ordinance No. 20 of 1889 was rendered necessary by the practice which had sprung up among certain unprincipled natives of insuring bogus exports and representing that such exports, said to consist of gold dust, ivory, rubber kola nuts, or other consignments of a marketable value, had been lost in the surf in transit from the beach to the ship, the certificate of loss being signed by the interested parties or their friends. In this way many frauds were committed on insurance companies in England. Several were detected, and the guilty parties are now undergoing various terms of penal servitude.

Ordinance No. 23 of 1889 gave more extended powers to the Government in the matter of the sanitation of the towns and villages of the Colony, and the opportunity was taken of requiring the owners of dogs to take out annual licenses. Ordinance No. 13 of 1892 consolidates this and the Ordinances which have been passed in connection with the enforcement of sanitation.

Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 is the Ordinance imposing the ad valorem duty of 10 per cent.

Ordinance No. 1. of 1890, No. 3 of 1891, and No. 5 of 1892, refer to the reduction of Customs Duties with respect to imports into that part of the Protectorate lying eastward of the River Volta.

Ordinance No. 9 of 1891 affects the law of burial, and gives power to require the chief of any town or place to establish a cemetery for the use of his people. The main object of the Ordinance is to prevent the heathen custom of the burial of bodies inside dwelling houses. This practice probably owes its orgin to the fact that it was, and in the less civilised portions of the Protectorate still is, the practice to bury with the bodies many of the

costly gold ornaments owned by the deceased during lifetime than to the prevailing belief that the spirit of the departed hovers round the abiding place of its earthly body, and ought, therefore, to be housed and looked after.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1892 is a corollary to Ordinance No. 3 of 1892, passed for the purpose of carrying out the General Act of the Brussels Conference, 1890, with regard to the importation of arms of precision, ammunition, and gunpowder, within the zone specified in the 8th Article of the General Act.

Ordinance No. 9 of 1892 is a step towards making Sunday an universal rest day. In this Colony the Mohammedans' rest day is Friday, and the heathen fishermen rest on Tuesdays.

Ordinance No. 11 of 1892 puts down by law the abominable customs of the country of Krobo in which murder and vice had prominent places. At the customs, in honour of the Fetishes Kotoklo and Nadu, it was a mark of honour to produce a human skull or thigh bone, and in order to obtain these strangers passing through the country were frequently murdered. The skulls were used during the custom as drinking cups for rum and palm wine. These Krobo customs are in process of being stamped out—the sacred groves and shrines having already been broken down and the priests dispersed.

Ordinance No. 12 of 1892 provides a complete criminal code for the Colony and was drafted on the lines of the code already at the time in force in the West Indian Colony of St. Lucia.

Ordinance No. 14 of 1892 prevents the compounding and sale of drugs and poisons by incompetent persons.

Ordinance No. 17 of 1892 was passed to meet the requirements of the volunteer corps started in Accra during the year.

Ordinance No. 18 of 1892 gets over the difficulty experienced by Native public officers in obtaining security for the faithful performance of their duties. The Government will in fact henceforth guarantee the credit of its own officers.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

There is no political franchise The Governor nominates two unofficial members to the Legislative Council.

COUNCILS.

During the year 1892 the Legislative Councils sat during 38 days.

On the 23rd April 1891 the Inspector-General of Constabulary was appointed a member of the Executive Council and an official member of the Legislative Council in place of the officer in command of the Imperial Troops.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The following deaths of Government Officials have occurred during the last four years.

1889.

26th February, Dr. Robert English, Assistant Colonial Surgeon

3rd March, at sea, while proceeding to England on leave, Mr. L. C. Kiernan, Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

15th March, Mr. J. J. P. Moran, Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

7th December, Mr. A. K. Whitton, Local Auditor for the Gold Coast Colony.

26th December, Mr. William Lee, Foreman of Works, Public Works Department.

1890.

1st June, Dr. Sylvester John Cole, Assistant Colonial Surgeon.

29th July, Mr. William Griffith, Foreman of Works, Public Works Department.

1891.

3rd March, Captain Ben Johnson, Assistant Inspector Gold Coast Constabulary.

4th March, at sea, Mr. John Snowley, Foreman of Works, Public Works Department.

9th April, Mr. John P. Bagwell, Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

12th June, at sea, the Honourable Lieutenant Colonel Cash, Inspector-General of the Gold Coast Constabulary.

28th June, at sea, Captain Gordon Dermer Travers, Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

9th August, the Honourable Charles Pike, C.M.G., Treasurer.

1892.

11th January, Mr. D. B. Yorke, late District Commissioner.

12th April, Mr. Arthur Walter Macdonald Kirkham, District Commissioner.

15th May, Dr. Nathaniel Ingham Edghill, Assistant Colonial Surgeon.

1st June, Captain J. H. Ovens, Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

4th July, The Honourable John Sarbah, member of the Legislative Council.

12th October, in England, from the effect of malaria contracted in the Colony, Mr. Fairfax Francklin, Assistant Colonial Treasurer.

19th December, Mr. Charles B. Simmons, Clerk in Charge, Telegraph Department.

Several officers were invalided each year to England or the Canary Islands.

During the last four years nearly every Government Department has been reorganised and, by the compilation and issue of rules and regulations for the guidance of the Staff in each Department in the performance of their work, greater efficiency has been secured.

In the year 1891 the Telegraphs, which had hitherto been worked as a part of the organization of the Post Office Department, were separated and formed into a distinct Department under an officer with the title of the Director of Telegraphs, the appointment being conferred, on the 1st June 1891, upon Mr. M. S. Andrews, who had for some time filled the post of Superintendent of the African Direct Telegraphs Company's Office at Accra. The change has been most beneficial, because it has resulted in the staff receiving more individual attention and in the whole telegraph system being more carefully supervised, a matter of imperative importance in the successful working of telegraph lines.

Besides the Telegraph Department several other new departments have either been initiated or formed.

In 1890 a Roads Department was commenced by the appointment of an Inspector of Trade Roads on the 15th February in that year.

An Education Department, under the controlling hand of the Director of Education (an officer who was appointed on the 10th September 1890, when it was decided that the Colony should have its own Inspector of Schools instead of sharing one with the Colonies of Sierra Leone and Lagos), has sprung into existence.

The appointment, on the 25th April 1891 of an officer as Sheriff who should also have the management of the prisons of the Colony has resulted in the formation of a Prisons Department which cannot fail to work incalculable benefit in organizing the several prisons of the Colony and bringing all the arrangements into harmony and order. Under the auspices of Mr. J. R. Phillips, who received the appointment, the mark system for convicts undergoing sentences of one year and upwards has been introduced, and other changes beneficial alike to organization and the treatment of convicts have been made.

A Sanitary Department under the Chief Medical Officer has, since 1888, been in gradual progress of formation and as it extends

must necessarily be of benefit in promoting a better sanitary condition of the towns and villages of the Colony and thereby improving the health of the people.

The formation of a botanical station at Aburi in February 1890 is practically the formation of a new Department. Started for the purpose of educating the natives to turn their attention to the production of other articles of export than the staple articles of palm oil, palm kernels, and rubber, by the cultivation of products of economic value, it has already been the means of stimulating the cultivation of coffee and cotton.

POPULATION.

Until the year 1891 no well-determined efforts had been made to ascertain the population of the Colony and protected territories with any degree of exactitude, but special steps were then taken to get as correct a census as posible. The 5th April 1891 was the date fixed for taking the census, and as far as practicable that day was universally regarded.

Exclusive of the countries of Kwahu nd British Krepi, the returns received for the whole Colony showed that there was a population of 768,882, made up as follows:—

Males - - - - -	357,584
Females - - - - -	409,511
Unclassified - - - -	1,787
	768,882

while as regards most of the principal towns along the littoral and some of the adjacent countries the returns sent in by the enumerators may be regarded as fairly accurate. The difficulty of getting at the people in the interior parts of the Colony, the great reluctance of the natives to be enumerated, and other causes, led to inaccuracies elsewhere. The Census Committee calculated that an addition of 205,000 should be made to the returns as representing persons unenumerated. This brings the total population of the Colony up to 973,882, to which figures are added 500,000 for the countries of Kwahu and British Krepi, making a grand total of 1,473,882 inhabitants of the Colony and protected territories.

The population of Accra is recorded as -	16,267
of Cape Coast - - - -	11,614
and of Elmina - - - -	10,530

Of the total population about 37,500 are professing Christians and are classified as follows:—

Wesleyans - - - - -	24,700
Lutherans (Basel Mission) - - -	9,029
Roman Catholics - - - -	2,165
Church of England - - - -	800
Other denominations - - - -	806
	37,500

The influx of Mahommedans into the Gold Coast has been very noticeable in recent years. In Accra alone, irrespective of the Hausa constabulary, there are probably not less than 1,000 followers of Islam.

SECURITY.

European officers who are required to give security do so principally through the medium of one of the English guarantee societies; and native officers by obtaining two approved sureties in the Colony. This latter arrangement has been found to be unsatisfactory, principally because it places the officers under obligation to their sureties, which is undesirable, and because the more perfect organization which has been effected in all departments in recent years having resulted in the detection of all monetary irregularities, the sureties have, not unfrequently, been required to make good the defalcations; and many native officers have, on that account, been unable to get approved persons to become sureties for them.

An ordinance (No. 19 of 1892) has accordingly been passed for the purpose of enabling the Government to become surety for its own officers up to a limit of 500*l.* in each case.

The salient features of this Ordinance, which will come into force in 1893, are:—

(*a.*) The annual payment in advance of 1 per cent. upon the amount for which the officer is required to give security.

(*b.*) The payment of an entrance fee as follows:—
For incomes of 100*l.* and under, 5*s.*
For incomes over 100*l.*, 10*s.*

(*c.*) The payment of the first year's contribution in one lump sum in advance.

(*d.*) The payment of the contributions of succeeding years monthly in advance.

(*e.*) After contributing for five years, the contribution to be lowered to one-tenth of the original amount, unless otherwise ordered by the directors with the approval of the Governor.

(*f.*) The year for the purposes of the fund to be from the 1st January to the 31st December.

PENSIONS.

At the close of the year 1892 there were 35 pensioners on the Government, the total pensions amounting to 3,130*l.* 10*s.* Since 1887 the Pension List has stood as follows:—

		£	*s.*	*d.*
1888	22 pensioners,	1,734	7	7
1889	28 „	2,420	7	2
1890	30 „	2,471	8	8
1891	36 „	3,159	13	3
1892	35 „	3,130	10	0

EDUCATION.

The educational system of the Colony is based upon an ordinance passed on the 28th September 1887 for "the promotion and assistance of education in the Gold Coast Colony" and upon rules framed under that ordinance by a Board of Education and approved on the 4th November 1887.

Although there are two well filled Government schools, one at Accra and the other at Cape Coast, the work of educating the natives is practically in the hands of the two large missionary societies which have worked so long and so well in the Colony, namely the Wesleyan and the Basel Missionary societies. In 1892 the former had 26 schools with 2,948 children on the registers, and the latter 32 schools with 2,192 children. The Roman Catholics are, however, making good advances in this all important work and now have nine schools with 1,189 children on the registers.

The total number of children under instruction in the Colony during the last five years has been as follows:—

1888	4,585
1889	5,038
1890	5,356
1891	6,688
1892	7,572

Although these figures show that some advance is being made the result is after all very meagre having regard to the estimated population of 1,473,882. As a matter of fact only 5 per 1,000 of the population are now attending the elementary schools, and there remains therefore an enormous amount of work to be accomplished.

The following summary shows the distribution of the children among the groups of schools during the last five years.

Year.	Government Schools.			Wesleyan Mission Schools.			Basel Mission Schools.			Roman Catholic Schools.			Bremen Mission Schools.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1888 - - -	832	217	1,049	1,497	161	1,658	1,015	497	1,512	180	77	257	97	12	109
1889 - - -	784	215	999	1,620	178	1,798	1,155	531	1,686	364	91	455	92	8	100
1890 - - -	683	201	884	1,769	203	1,972	1,282	615	1,897	432	86	518	68	17	85
1891 - - -	818	231	1,049	2,019	233	2,252	1,424	780	2,204	807	222	1,029	128	26	154
1892 - - -	880	218	1,098	2,576	372	2,948	1,412	780	2,192	1,008	181	1,189	*	*	145

* Not separately furnished.

In 1889 steps were taken to obtain a better uniformity in all schools in the matter of school registers and school equipment, and in lessening the diversity of the books in use. Examinations have also been held in 1890, 1891 and 1892 for the purpose of ascertaining the acquirements of the teachers and of grading and certificating them in accordance with the results obtained. Much, however, has still to be done in this direction.

In 1891 the Kindergarten system of teaching was introduced into the Government schools for the junior classes and it has answered admirably. It is being adopted in the schools of the Wesleyan and Basel Missions.

In 1891, with a view to the encouragement of thrift, penny banks were started experimentally in the principal schools of the Colony, and the result has not been without encouragement. On the 31st December 1892 there were 508 school children depositing money in the penny banks and a total sum of £43 11*s.* 8½*d.* deposited. The following table shows the distribution of the deposits:—

Schools.	Total No. Depositors.	Total sum to credit of Depositors.
		£ *s.* *d.*
Government School, Accra - - -	164	26 11 4½
Wesleyan School, Accra - - -	113	9 17 10
Basel Mission School, Accra - -	34	15 10
Government School, Cape Coast - -	87	2 18 1
Wesleyan School, Cape Coast - -	55	10 0
Roman Catholic School, Elmina - -	53	1 9 11
Wesleyan School, Winneba - - -	2	1 8 8
	508	43 11 8½

In order to encourage school work by the promotion of rivalry between the several schools of the Colony a competition and exhibition of needlework as well as of mapping, freehand drawing, and handicrafts have been held annually since 1888. At these competitions and exhibitions, prizes are awarded by a committee of management and the results duly published.

The girls in the Roman Catholic schools at Elmina and Cape Coast are taught practical cooking; the Wesleyan Mission opened in 1892, at Cape Coast, a school for instruction in carpentry and forge work, and at many of the Basel Mission schools practical instruction has for some time been given in agriculture as well as in carpentry and forge work. It is principally owing to the exertions of the Basel Mission in years past that the Gold Coast is now the principal recruiting ground of neighbouring Colonies for

coopers, carpenters, and blacksmiths and that the mechanics of Accra are in such demand.

The sums earned as grants-in-aid by the several groups of schools have been as follows:—

Group.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wesleyan Mission -	229 13 0	304 13 6	580 14 0	691 0 0	1,060 6 0
Basel Mission -	351 18 0	490 11 0	627 8 6	618 9 0	671 18 6
Roman Catholic Mission - - -	77 5 0	58 19 6	148 6 0	334 12 0	435 2 0
Bremen Mission -	28 7 6	62 5 0	No grant awarded.		
	687 3 6	916 9 0	1,356 8 6	1,644 1 0	2,167 6 6

TRADE.

IMPORTS and EXPORTS.

Imports.

Of the total imports about two-thirds come from the United Kingdom, the remainder being supplied by the United States, Germany, France, and Holland.

The total value of the imports during the last six years, that is to say since Lagos was divorced from the Gold Coast, is shown as follows:—

Year.	From the United Kingdom.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 - -	267,176 10 4	4,665 15 9	91,873 6 0	363,715 12 1
1888 - -	312,565 12 2	6,568 14 11	112,977 18 3	432,112 5 4
1889 - -	340,111 2 1	8,828 12 11	91,928 14 3	440,868 9 3
1890 - -	422,739 14 6	5,861 0 4	133,502 1 6	562,102 16 4
1891 - -	483,392 18 3	5,085 6 10	177,302 17 11	665,781 3 0
1892 - -	407,037 16 10	9,924 13 11	180,132 1 8	597,094 12 5

The value of the principal articles of Imports since 1888 are shown in the following table:—

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ale and porter - -	1,911 4 0	1,926 15 10	1,851 13 9	2,256 7 4
Ammunition - - -	808 1 5	1,960 7 4	1,616 15 7	2,776 5 1
Beads - - - -	11,552 14 7	7,904 16 10	10,502 15 5	10,176 15 7
Bags and sacks - -	2,894 18 8	4,269 6 8	4,491 15 10	4,539 7 6

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beef and pork	1,176 8 6	1,459 15 7	1,972 18 9	1,670 14 5
Blue, Indigo	826 18 2	1,255 9 1	1,504 6 5	1,066 14 4
Boats and canoes	1,760 6 1	1,626 7 5	2,977 17 10	3,196 19 0
Books (printed)	1,098 16 5	1,513 7 11	2,019 12 8	1,797 7 0
Brandy	341 8 11	323 8 4	379 2 2	401 17 3
Brass and copperware	2,515 19 6	2,857 15 7	6,393 5 8	6,871 3 2
Bread and biscuits	3,035 16 3	2,657 17 9	3,374 9 9	6,039 16 7
Building materials	8,681 9 1	6,304 9 9	10,430 5 6	12,252 15 2
Cordage and twine	5,553 0 10	4,841 4 10	7,009 11 5	5,970 6 9
Cotton goods	159,837 4 0	149,554 9 5	218,745 14 10	181,773 16 10
Cooper's stores	12,514 2 6	13,402 9 2	18,836 13 2	16,903 19 7
Drugs and medicines	3,080 10 1	3,017 17 10	3,083 12 9	3,147 10 4
Earthenware	3,350 4 6	3,029 17 3	3,984 7 9	4,125 18 3
Flour	4,824 15 4	5,099 4 7	5,185 18 9	6,489 3 0
Furniture	3,538 9 8	695 9 1	1,019 2 11	1,061 7 3
Gin and Geneva	10,635 8 0	15,194 15 1	19,391 16 3	18,185 12 9
Gunpowder	3,642 19 6	7,148 3 8	8,567 13 0	6,479 14 4
Guns and pistols	5,054 12 4	8,797 13 8	14,738 0 6	8,802 9 8
Glassware	648 7 1	1,162 1 11	1,738 7 4	1,952 17 8
Hardware and cutlery	14,935 1 9	9,955 4 6	12,200 4 0	12,506 6 11
Instruments, musical and scientific.	1,018 18 8	1,407 1 4	1,379 1 5	1,803 3 6
Ironware	—	649 7 10	1,259 15 5	785 0 3
Lead (all kinds)	1,796 3 6	1,943 7 7	2,695 18 4	2,400 1 5
Machinery, mining and Agricultural.	7,603 3 7	14,110 18 7	3,880 3 5	5,531 5 0
Machinery (for other purposes).	—	525 11 3	773 1 11	565 10 3
Matches	—	885 4 11	1,157 3 7	964 19 3
Mineral waters	1,991 4 9	2,163 12 7	2,535 1 3	2,643 16 9
Oils (illuminating)	2,397 15 6	5,415 5 7	3,192 13 0	1,504 7 4
Paints and oils	904 1 6	1,761 14 11	1,878 19 4	1,962 2 11
Provisions	10,640 18 0	10,029 3 3	10,985 2 7	12,686 0 2
Rice	5,429 1 7	4,936 11 0	5,975 7 10	11,108 3 1
Rum	33,755 9 11	60,571 14 8	78,556 7 10	75,629 8 7
Salt	1,818 3 6	2,223 13 10	3,287 16 9	2,702 2 8
Silk goods	7,165 16 10	7,753 4 1	15,496 16 8	19,349 17 1
Soaps, Perfumery, &c.	11,127 17 8	9,878 0 8	13,465 1 4	10,743 4 1
Specie	40,296 6 4	119,415 9 4	86,479 1 8	48,025 7 11
Stationery	2,142 19 2	2,755 8 8	2,873 16 0	3,176 18 7
Steam launches	855 0 0	1,115 14 8	999 19 10	4,062 11 6
Sugar	3,678 3 8	2,911 18 3	3,784 15 7	5,046 3 6
Tools	—	1,309 14 10	2,153 16 2	2,398 13 0
Tobacco	14,470 4 0	16,358 11 5	16,779 8 6	18,393 4 11

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1881.	1892.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Umbrellas - - -	1,198 16 2	2,209 6 0	2,212 13 0	2,050 17 1
Wearing apparel - -	8,014 10 10	9,525 14 4	11,054 0 7	10,985 6 4
Whiskey - - -	1,488 2 11	1,893 7 4	2,005 12 2	2,244 14 0
Wines and liqueurs - -	4,116 3 5	4,208 6 10	6,806 12 4	6,085 9 3
Woollen goods - -	2,399 18 0	2,955 5 0	4,263 18 8	4,600 7 2
Miscellaneous - - -	12,340 12 7	17,230 18 6	17,832 15 10	19,476 3 3
Total Imports - -	440,868 9 3	562,102 16 4	665,781 3 0	597,370 5 5
Total Imports - -	440,868 9 3	562,102 16 4	665,781 3 0	597,370 5 5
Less Specie - -	40,297 6 4	119,415 9 4	86,479 1 8	48,025 7 11
Total - - £	400,571 2 11	442,687 7 0	579,302 1 4	549,344 17 6

The total value of Imports paying duty and admitted free for the past six years was as follows :—

Year.	Paying Duty.	Admitted free.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 - -	317,844 1 0	45,871 11 1	363,715 12 1
1888* - -	91,590 0 11	340,522 4 5	432,112 5 4
1889 - -	77,333 0 11	363,535 8 4	440,868 9 3
1890† - -	349,704 11 8	212,398 4 8	562,102 16 4
1891 - -	464,188 1 7	201,593 1 5	665,781 3 0
1892 - -	422,302 1 1	175,068 4 4	597,370 5 5

*Four per cent. ad valorem duty taken off.
†Ten per cent. ad valorem duty imposed on certain articles.

In 1892 the importation of rum and alcoholic liquors was as follows :—

	Gallons.
Rum - - - - - - -	1,029,114
Gin and Geneva - - - - -	220,322
Whiskey - - - - - -	5,054
Brandy - - - - - -	485
Wines - - - - - -	20,492
Ale and Porter - - - - -	19,665
Total - - - - - -	1,295,132

With an estimated population of 1,473,882 this gives an average consumption of about $\frac{6}{7}$ths gallon per head, but there is no doubt that a large quantity of the spirits imported into the Colony finds its way into Ashanti and other interior countries not within the protectorate and that $\frac{3}{4}$ gallon per head more nearly approximates to accuracy.

In the United Kingdom, with its population of 38,000,000, the annual consumption of spirits is roughly 39,000,000 gallons and of beer 31,000,000 barrels, besides other strong drinks. It is clear, therefore, that the consumption of alcoholic drinks on the Gold Coast compares very favourably with that of the United Kingdom.

Drunkenness on the Gold Coast is comparatively uncommon. East of the river Volta, where, on account of the low duties, rum can be purchased for threepence a bottle, and where, therefore, if the importation of spirits into the midst of the natives has the demoralizing influence so often contended for it, the effects would be at once visible, there is absolutely no increase of drunkenness apparent. It would seem, therefore, that the West African Native is not without a proper appreciation of the advantages of temperate habits.

Exports.

The value of the exports during the last six years is shown as follows:—

Year.	To United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 -	306,665 12 0	2,213 1 2	63,567 17 3	372,446 10 5
1888 -	281,778 10 11	3,616 16 2	96,223 13 4	381,619 0 5
1889 -	363,323 5 4	1,053 4 8	78,549 12 2	415,926 2 2
1890 -	494,237 1 11	643 19 2	106,467 8 5	601,348 9 6
1891 -	545,492 16 6	2,035 5 0	136,776 18 2	684,304 19 8
1892 -	471,218 19 10	2,053 13 9	191,791 9 8	665,064 3 3

The quantity and value of the principal staples exported since Lagos became a separate Colony are given in the following table:—

EXPORTS, 1887–1892.

Year.	Camwood.		Cocoa-nuts.		Coffee.		Copra.		Cotton.		Gold Dust.	
	lbs.	£ s. d.	Number.	£ s. d.	lbs.	£ s. d.	Tons. cwts.	£ s. d.	lbs.	£ s. d.	ozs.	£ s. d.
1887 -	109,678	576 2 6	26,725	73 7 0	2,897	85 9 0	199 14½	1,366 14 4	—	—	22,546¾	81,168 9 5
1888 -	27,831	193 3 10	127,142	240 8 3	8,797	115 14 3	162 16½	1,087 5 6	13,650	196 11 6	24,030⅝	86,510 5 2
1889 -	7,444	73 4 5	214,872	500 10 10	1,802	49 18 6	96 2	812 5 5	4,241	59 12 9	28,366$\frac{13}{16}$	103,200 9 10
1890 -	5,200	38 18 0	502,239	1,134 2 1	9,319	247 6 0	80 19¼	609 5 10	62,750	2,945 19 4	25,460¼	91,657 0 10
1891 -	6,360	45 19 6	437,748	776 1 6	13,721	473 6 3	253 14	2,069 14 11	43,880	730 18 8	24,475$\frac{9}{16}$	88,112 2 9
1892 -	21,300	69 2 0	285,874	472 15 11	12,899	275 4 8	161 16	1,003 13 6	28,862	441 4 1	27,446$\frac{1}{16}$	98,805 17 3

Exports, 1887–1892—*continued.*

Year.	Ground Nuts.		Guinea Grains.		Gum Copal.		Hides and Skins.		Ivory.		Kola Nuts.	
	lbs.	£ s. d.	Tons. cwts.	£ s. d.	lbs.	£ s. d.	lbs. and singles	£ s. d.	lbs.	£ s. d.	Packages.	£ s. d.
1887 -	23,346	91 17 5	231 7	670 0 0	74,077	1,109 0 4	6,223 118,183	7,868 14 11	13,322½	3,865 18 3	206	1,009 16 6
1888 -	1,162	6 17 9	68 2	1,108 17 7	96,002	1,310 9 10	8,156 164,431	15,422 15 6	10,558½	2,820 4 3	261	1,549 5 2
1889 -	2,293	20 10 8	9 5½	234 18 0	134,967	1,047 1 0	9,066 179,355	35,153 11 3	14,408	4,896 3 4	13	85 3 8
1890 -	209,367	784 9 5	84 18	845 13 5	40,164	505 13 7	3,304 171,107	28,241 5 5	15,483¾	5,148 18 9	607	3,314 1 11
1891 -	161,246	621 0 8	118 10	3,178 15 0	28,342	440 17 11	4,635 187,245	30,538 17 9	15,092	4,606 5 7	347	2,223 16 8
1892 -	—	—	23 14	457 14 0	36,593	489 6 8	1,392 188,930	34,915 13 0	32,003	5,417 10 0	91	1,328 7 3

EXPORTS, 1887–1892—*continued.*

Year.	Palm Kernels.			Palm Oil.			Rubber.			Specie.			Timber.			Unclassified.			Total Exports.		
	Tons. cwts.	£	s. d.	Gallons.	£	s. d.	lbs.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		Feet.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	
1887 -	8,022 14	41,613	2 8	3,076,634	143,395	4 8	1,306,252	62,430	1 8	23,238	4 0		240	4	0 0	3,880	7 9		372,446	10 5	
1888 -	13,330 14	68,525	0 2	3,410,788	150,361	3 11	878,387	38,048	8 9	9,329	4 10		476	17	15 6	4,775	8 0		381,619	0 5	
1889 -	10,918 18½	62,542	2 6	2,901,737	137,283	3 7	1,241,628½	55,197	16 4	10,888	12 6		672	26	0 0	3,854	17 7		415,926	2 2	
1890 -	12,650 6¾	78,433	2 1	2,932,951	144,788	1 0	3,361,055	231,281	11 0	6,428	5 2		6,375	510	18 0	4,433	17 8		601,348	9 6	
1891 -	12,927 14	89,589	4 8	3,894,369	192,851	15 5	2,946,913	198,901	6 6	37,492	2 0		1,350,226	22,096	12 5	9,557	1 6		684,304	19 8	
1892 -	15,845 18	103,294	15 3	3,643,366	178,953	15 0	2,663,020	166,659	16 8	29,522	16 10		2,130,614	36,407	6 0	6,549	5 2		665,064	3 3	

By far the larger quantity of the exports go to the United Kingdom, next in order are Germany, France and the United States, the last named taking gum copal, palm kernels, and palm oil only.

There seems every promise that a large trade in the valuable timber of the Colony is springing up. It has already attracted a good deal of capital and the timber realizes good prices in the English markets. The export of timber has, it will be seen from the foregoing figures, increased from 240 feet, valued at 4*l.* in 1887, to 2,130,614 feet, valued at 36,407*l.* 6*s.* in 1892. The transport of the timber from the timber grants to the coast forms one of the principal obstacles to the success of the trade, but it is one which is not insurmountable.

One of the most remarkable exports is that of monkey skins. During the last five years an average of 175,000 monkey skins, valued at about 30,000*l.*, have been exported annually. Only skins in good condition and with few shot holes are taken, and under the circumstances it may safely be asserted that at least 200,000 monkeys are massacred every year on the Gold Coast. The skins most sought after are those of the Colobus Vellerosus, which are often as large as a big dog and have beautiful coats of long black silky hair.

The total value of the exports per head of the population was in 1892 8*s.* 10½*d.*

SHIPPING.

The following tables show:—

(A.) The number of sailing ships and steamers which have entered and cleared during the past five years.

(B.) The countries from which they have entered, and

(C.) the countries for which they have cleared during the same period.

A.

Year.	Steamers entered.		Steamers cleared.		Sailing vessels entered.		Sailing vessels cleared.		Totals.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1888 - -	242	274,027	243	275,874	23	5,114	21	5,010	529	560,025
1889 - -	235	279,684	234	283,331	17	3,546	11	2,485	497	569,046
1890 - -	261	312,430	271	320,887	19	5,822	14	3,876	565	643,015
1891 - -	299	379,377	300	374,054	34	12,224	31	11,514	664	777,169
1892 - -	311	409,726	306	395,256	35	11,851	31	10,077	683	826,910

B.

Entered from	1888.		1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.
United Kingdom.	83	92,355	84	96,550	89	107,594	91	125,684	79	116, 6
Germany -	49	53,989	25	29,359	33	36,397	35	38,195	47	53,377
France - -	2	530	2	1,742	4	3,469	5	3,352	7	7,094
United States	6	3,248	3	1,041	5	2,180	10	2,924	8	3,379
African Ports	125	129,019	138	154,538	148	168,228	184	216,287	193	230,388
Italy - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2,254	3	1,536
Belgium -	—	—	—	—	1	384	1	915	8	9,441
Portugal -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	900	—	—
Spain - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	100
Cape of Good Hope.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	90	—	—
Total -	265	279,141	252	283,230	280	318,252	333	391,601	346	421,577

C.

Cleared for	1888.		1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
United Kingdom.	72	85,557	79	93,935	99	118,619	105	135,537	78	108,844
Germany -	35	40,944	18	22,587	27	32,417	30	33,182	44	48,512
France - -	3	1,953	2	1,909	9	8,552	2	1,161	3	3,501
United States	3	1,238	2	1,008	2	164,397	5	2,007	2	584
African Ports	150	150,907	144	166,377	148	—	187	211,865	197	234,138
Belgium -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	7,909
Portugal -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	746	1	228
Spain - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	529
Holland -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1,070	—	—
West Indies.	1	285	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1,088
Total -	264	280,884	245	285,816	285	324,763	331	385,568	337	405,333

There are 12 ports of entry and 34 sufferance wharves in the Colony for the loading and unloading of vessels.

Agriculture.

The area of the Colony has been variously estimated from 29,401 square miles, as given in the admirable report made by the Commissioners who were appointed by Colonel F. White when administering the Government in 1887 for the purpose of considering the resources of the country and the best means of developing them (the report has been published under the title "Economic Agriculture on the Gold Coast" and can be obtained of the Government Printers, Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode*), to 39,060 square miles as published in the Blue Books. It is probable that a mean between the two—say 35,000 square miles—will more nearly approximate to accuracy.

This is not the place to enter into the question of land tenure on the Gold Coast, but anyone interested in the subject can find a good deal of information with respect to it in the report above referred to.

With regard to the area of land under cultivation I cannot do better than quote from the Commissioners' report:—

"In this tropical country, where nature repays every effort of cultivation by a hundredfold return, and the wants of man are confined almost exclusively to his daily necessary food, there is no incentive to exertion, and thus, though agriculture is the main occupation of the people, we have no hesitation in stating that probably we have no more than three per cent., certainly not more than five per cent., of the soil brought under cultivation in any one year."

The staple food crops of the country are maize, plantains, yams, cassada, ground-nuts, and in some districts, rice. Many parts of the Colony are admirably adapted for the cultivation of rice, and a profitable trade might be carried on by the cultivation of it, as may be seen at a glance from the following figures, which give the quantity and value of rice imported into the Colony during the last five years:—

Year.	Cwts.	Value.
		£ s. d.
1888	8,992¾	4,050 11 11
1889	10,922¾	5,429 1 7
1890	10,524¼	4,936 11 0
1891	12,370	5,975 7 10
1892	22,774	11,108 3 11

* Colonial Report, No. 110 of 1890 [C.—5897.-40].

The tobacco plant might also be cultivated with advantage. During the last five years tobacco has been imported into the Colony in the following quantities :—

Year.	Lbs.	Value.
		£ s. d.
1888 - - - - - -	482,445	14,313 2 2
1889 - - - - - -	512,233	13,626 10 3
1890 - - - - - -	692,166	15,552 5 4
1891 - - - - - -	731,580	15,657 8 10
1892 - - - - - -	744,508	17,591 8 7

No well directed efforts have as yet been made to grow tobacco, but from the experiments which have been made at the Botanical Station since its establishment in 1890 there is no doubt that the plant is easy of culture on the Gold Coast, and that tobacco of good quality can be produced.

The variety of fruits obtainable is small, and little or no attention is paid by the natives to the cultivation of fruit trees. It is hoped that the establishment of the Government Botanical Station at Aburi will stimulate the natives to turn more attention to fruit cultivation.

The principal commercial product is the oil palm, which, although to be found in profusion throughout the Colony, has never been systematically cultivated. There are three varieties of the tree, which are distinguishable by the colour of the nuts—orange, red, and black, the first giving the best quality of oil. The means adopted by the natives for extracting the oil are very well described in the report on Economic Agriculture. They are miserably defective, causing considerable waste. Probably also not more than half the oil-producing palm trees are made use of, the nuts from the remaining trees being allowed to fall from the trees and rot on the ground. In connection with this, the staple industry of the Colony, the want of improved means of communication between the plantations and the trade Ports is seriously felt. Better means of communication would necessarily lessen the cost of transport; would open out the oil-producing districts; would stimulate trade; and would, by decreasing the cost of placing the staple on the market, admit of the palm oil trade holding its own for a long time to come with its many competitors for attention in the markets of the world. With the spread of education will come improved methods of cultivation and manufacture, which in their turn will be the means of ensuring a stable, abiding, and profitable trade to the merchants.

The trade in palm kernels suffers even more than oil from the want of good communication with the trade ports, and in this regard it will be sufficient to quote from the Report on Economic Agriculture: "For every ton of palm oil there should be 2½ tons "of clean palm kernels, and yet we find that the exports of the "article are much below those of the oil. The direct loss to the "Colony is enormous and arises from the same causes as diminish "the export of oil. Machines have been invented by Gunnell "and others for the purpose of rapidly breaking the nuts, but "they can never come into general use until it is possible to move "large weights in carts along roads adapted to the purpose, as "will be evident when it is considered that under present condi-"tions four men are required to carry on their heads sufficient "nuts (2 cwts.) to produce 56 lbs. of kernels, the value of which "varies from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 2*s.* 3*d.* Owing to this cause £100,000* "worth of this one article are annually wasted (*see* Schedule B), "the nuts being piled in heaps and allowed to rot. Schedule B is "an eloquent argument for the establishment of good cart roads." In place of Schedule B referred to, which gave figures up to 1888 only, I append the following table, showing the figures from 1888 to 1892 inclusive:—

Year.	Quantity of Palm Oil exported.	Quantity of Palm Kernels produced.	Quantity of Palm Kernels exported.	Quantity of Palm Kernels unutilized.	Value of Palm Kernels unutilized.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£
1888 - -	11,369	28,422	13,330	15,092	75,460
1889 - -	9,672	24,180	10,919	13,261	66,305
1890 - -	9,776½	24,441	12,650	11,791	58,955
1891 - -	12,948	32,370	12,928	19,442	97,210
1892 - -	12,144½	30,361	15,846	14,515	72,575
Total -	55,910	139,774	65,673	74,101	£370,505

Next in importance to the oil palms are the rubber trees. There was practically no trade in rubber until the year 1883, when, in consequence of the attention which was drawn to this valuable product in 1882, a trade was stimulated, until rubber has reached the dignity of being regarded as one of the staple exports of the Colony.

The following figures show the progress which has been made in the decade.

* This estimate is too high, it should have been 75,000*l.*

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£ s. d.
1883 - - - -	57,913	2,371 12 0
1884 - - - -	123,843	13,619 17 7
1885 - - - -	93,726	30,234 15 1
1886 - - - -	1,549,121	69,911 2 8
1887 - - - -	1,306,252	62,430 1 8
1888 - - - -	878,387	38,048 8 9
1889 - - - -	1,241,628½	55,197 16 4
1890 - - - -	3,361,055	231,281 11 0
1891 - - - -	2,946,913	198,901 6 6
1892 - - - -	2,663,020	166,659 16 8

In 1891, 5,450 tons of caoutchouc were imported into the United Kingdom, and the Gold Coast now ranks third among the rubber-producing countries of the world. Rubber is found in abundance in Akim, Krepi, Denkera, Sefwhi and Wassaw, and outside the Protectorate in Ashanti.

Coffee and cotton are cultivated in small quantities and the soil is admirably adapted for their growth as well as for other economic products of market value.

Cotton is indigenous and has been used by the Natives from time immemorial. The Mohammedans weave from it very handsome cloths. The raw material has never, however, become a staple export, and the cultivation of it—if cultivation it can be called—is mainly carried on by the natives who inhabit the districts far removed from the sea-coast, where they find that yarn of British manufacture is more expensive to them than the material which they can raise on their own soil. In 1890 large quantities of Egyptian cotton were imported by the Government with a view to encourage the cultivation of cotton, and the samples obtained from the cotton planted at the Botanical Station were valued in England at a higher figure than any sample previously received from West Africa. The seed has been distributed as widely as possible throughout the Colony, but although a splendid trade might easily spring up in this valuable commodity the want of the means of transport will act as a deterrent to its cultivation on a scale beyond that which is sufficient to supply local wants.

The Botanical Station, to which I have already referred, has been the means of reviving the cultivation of coffee in the country of Akwapim, the soil of which is peculiarly suited to its growth,

and under the fostering hand of the Government it should in time become one of the staple exports of the Colony. Several coffee and cocoa plantations have in recent years been started by European and Native gentlemen in the neighbourhood of Cape Coast, and are likely to be attended with success and profit to the owners.

Fibre plants, which require so little attention, and the cultivation of which would on that account be suited to the habits of the native, have scarcely as yet received any consideration. Many valuable fibre plants are indigenous. Attempts have been made to develop an industry in African piassava fibre but not as yet with any success.

The kola tree, the nuts of which combine the best qualities of coffee and cocoa, and which can therefore be used for extracting a substitute for those beverages, is indigenous to the country. A small trade has been established and more will, it is believed, be heard of kola nuts as an article of export.

MANUFACTURES, MINES, &C.

There are no manufactures of trade value, and mining is confined to gold mining. The country is rich in gold, it is to be found everywhere in large or small quantities, and there is no native family in the country without its family gold ornaments of the purest gold and often of artistic workmanship. The insignia of the court officials of a native King are almost invariably covered with beaten gold, and gold dust among the natives is a common means of exchange.

The natives mine for gold in a very primitive manner; they do not use mercury and their returns must be small compared to what they might be. I am indebted to Mr. G. E. Ferguson, a native Government officer, for the following description of native mining which is taken from his report upon a Government mission which, at the end of 1890, led him through the country of Akim, which abounds in gold.

"A native miner has but few implements—a long-bladed spud or digger, a wooden bucket for bailing out the water or hoisting up the stuff, and a bowl for washing or "vanning" make up the list. He rarely makes his shaft more than three feet in diameter. Planting one end of his digger into a recess in the shaft he places the other end diagonally against the opposite side of the shaft, and supporting himself by it his foot is placed in another of the recesses. He then lengthens out his body and fixes his back firmly against the side of the shaft. Thus supported, he removes the digger, plants it in another recess below the first and by repeating the operation gets to the bottom of the shaft. A

tunnel, which cannot be long, for his neighbour's shaft is only 15 to 20 feet from him, is next driven.

"In some cases there is a quick return, nuggets worth 100*l.* not being rare, as I was informed by the Chief of Asiakwa. From all I can learn the yield is about 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

"Whatever the yield may be the numerous shafts serve as catchpits for surface water, and as the rainy season sets in all the workings are suspended; a few are renewed during the dry season, while most of them are permanently deserted and new shafts sunk. In this way the Akim miner honeycombs the ground, and by interfering with the natural distribution of the water wastes the mineral resources of his country."

For many years past gold mining on an extensive scale has been carried on by several English mining companies in Wassaw. These mines were visited early in 1889 by Governor Sir Brandford Griffith, and His Excellency's Report has been printed and presented to Parliament (copies of the Report* can be obtained of the Government Printers, Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode). Large sums of money have been spent on machinery, but the difficulty of landing machinery, and the further difficulty of transporting it to the mines, have been great hindrances in the development of what ought to be a prosperous and handsomely paying industry. Mismanagement has not been absent and no doubt other causes have been at work to prevent success, but Sir Brandford Griffith in his report, already referred to, says that his visit impressed him with the following convictions:—

1st; that the country is rich in gold and that it is merely a matter of the necessary time and scientific application for that gold to pay well for extraction, and

2nd; that earnest and well considered attempts are now being made to ensure success.

In a paper on the "History, Trade, Resources, and Present Condition of the Gold Coast Settlement," which Mr. Hesketh J. Bell, F.R.G.S., Assistant Treasurer of the Gold Coast, read on the 1st May 1893 before the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, he says, on the subject of gold mining:—

"It is impossible in the limits of a paper such as this to go fairly into the merits and prospects of gold mining on the West Coast of Africa. If the Gold Coast possessed a climate no worse than that of Australia or South Africa the question would long ere this have solved itself, and a rush to the West African Gold Fields would have happened very many years ago. I doubt very much whether California itself ever presented to the naked eye the tempting wealth of gold which so forcibly attracts the attention of the traveller in the western districts of the Gold Coast. All along the sea-board, from Cape Coast Castle to Appolonia, the native women may be seen washing the sand of

* Colonial Report, No. 66 of 1889 [C.—5620-24], August 1889.

the sea-shore and obtaining a considerable amount of gold therefrom. Every stream in Ahanta possesses rich auriferous deposits, and all over the country quartz reefs crop out in the surface soil giving good promise of great wealth lying at a little depth below. The reports of every competent person who visits these districts confirms the statement that gold is to be found in abundance."

The following table shows the exports of gold, irrespective of gold specie, from the Colony since 1885 :—

Year.	Weight.	Value.
	Ozs. Ack.	£ s. d.
1886 - - - -	20,799 1 0	74,828 17 0
1887 - - - -	22,546 12 $4\frac{2}{3}$	81,168 9 5
1888 - - - -	24,030 10 $0\frac{1}{3}$	86,510 5 2
1889 - - - -	28,666 12 $5\frac{1}{9}$	103,200 9 10
1890 - - - -	25,460 4 $3\frac{3}{4}$	91,657 0 10
1891 - - - -	24,475 9 3	88,112 2 9
1892 - - - -	27,446 1 1	98,805 17 3
Totals - - -	173,425 3 $5\frac{31}{36}$	£624,283 2 3

GRANTS OF LAND.

It is hardly an exaggeration to say that every square yard of land in the Colony has its owner, and the acquisition of land by the Government for public purposes can only be accomplished by payment at a valuation either eventually agreed upon or, in the majority of cases, fixed by the court to which the matter is taken for settlement under the provisions of the Public Lands Ordinance No. 8 of 1876. Large tracts of land form what is known as "Stool lands," that is land which is attached to the stool either of the native kings of the country or the chiefs of the towns or villages in that country, and passes upon the death of the king or chief to the next occupant of the stool. Disputes as to the ownership of land are frequent, and more trouble arises from such disputes than from any other cause. The mining companies hold most of their land by grants from native kings or chiefs for a term of years, and latterly large grants of land have been obtained by persons and companies interested in the timber trade. These grants are unregistered, and the only condition attached to them is that the grantee pays up with regularity the annual rent agreed upon.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of persons committed to the several Government prisons of the Colony during the last five years has been as follows :—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Totals.
1888 - - -	1,702	69	7	1,778
1889 - - -	2,093	148	14	2,255
1890 - - -	1,647	76	9	1,732
1891 - - -	1,677	85	4	1,766
1892 - - -	1,475	48	11	1,534

During the same years the cost of the Prisons Establishment was :—

Year.	Cost.
	£ s. d.
1888 - - - -	4,497 14 1
1889 - - - -	4,803 19 9
1890 - - - -	4,117 8 9
1891 - - - -	4,230 10 3
1892 - - - -	5,387 1 8

and the cost per head as shown in the following table :—

Year.	Total number of Prisoners.	Total cost of Prisoners.	Cost per Prisoner.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888 - - -	1,778	4,497 14 1	2 10 7
1889 - - -	2,255	4,803 19 9	2 2 7
1890 - - -	1,732	4,117 8 9	2 7 7
1891 - - -	1,766	4,230 10 3	2 7 11
1892 - - -	1,534	5,387 1 8	3 10 3

The large increase in the cost per head in 1892 as compared with previous years is due principally to the fact that in order to get a more reliable and efficient staff of prison officers higher wages have been paid from the 1st January 1892. The prison rations,

which are obtained by tender, have also slightly risen in price from the same date.

Against the cost must be placed as a set-off the value of the work done by the prisoners. They are employed in scavenging duties, the upkeep of roads, mat making, carpentering, and tailoring.

Besides the Government prisons, which number 13, there are 62 registered native prisons each under the charge of the Chief of the town in which it is situated.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following return shows the number of committed offences brought before the Government Courts, and the number of convictions obtained in Courts during the last five years:—

Year.	Offences.	Convictions.		Totals.
		Commissioner's Courts.	Supreme Court.	
1888 - -	5,087	3,638	134	3,772
1889 - -	4,951	3,638	123	3,761
1890 - -	5,678	4,403	166	4,569
1891 - -	5,369	4,106	139	4,245
1892 - -	5,385	4,042	126	4,168

The native kings and chiefs in the Protectorate are with few exceptions allowed to hold court and adjudicate upon cases in accordance with native custom. They have, however, on power of life and death, and all criminal offences of a serious character have to be sent to the Government courts.

In accordance with native custom suitors in native courts have a right of appeal from the Chief's court to the court of the King of the country, and this right presents a serious difficulty in connection with the partition of native countries.

On the 15th January 1883 an Ordinance was passed giving power to the Government to regulate native tribunals where it might from time to time appear desirable to do so. Under this excellent Ordinance, which is called the Native Jurisdiction Ordinance, the kings and chiefs of the countries to which it is applied have to render periodical returns to the Government of the cases dealt with by them, and the means exist of seeing that justice is fairly and impartially administered. The Ordinance has so far only been applied to a very few of the countries of the Protectorate.

HOSPITALS.

There are four public hospitals maintained by the Government at the following places :—

	Number of beds.
Accra - - -	40
Cape Coast - - -	32
Elmina - - -	28
Kwitta - - -	9

There are free dispensaries attached to each hospital and free dispensaries at the following places, where also a medical officer is stationed. At these dispensaries large numbers of natives are annually treated gratuitously :—

Axim. Saltpond. Winneba. Ada.

During the last five years the following in-patients have been treated :—

Year.	Patients Discharged.				Totals.
	Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Deaths.	
1888 - - -	710	226	12	59	1,007
1889 - - -	686	246	32	88	1,052
1890 - - -	769	179	40	47	1,035
1891 - - -	572	212	41	48	873
1892 - - -	840	272	47	71	1,230

PUBLIC LUNATIC ASYLUM.

A lunatic asylum was established in Accra in 1887, and the following male and female lunatics have been treated in it :—

Year.	Admitted.		Discharged.						Deaths.		December.	
			Cured.		Relieved.		Not improved.					
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1887 - -	14	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	11	5
1888 - -	17	3	3	—	—	—	—	1	8	3	17	4
1889 - -	10	3	5	2	—	—	—	—	4	1	18	4
1890 - -	12	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	6	1	21	3
1891 - -	10	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	25	5
1892 - -	21	2	7	—	—	—	1*	—	6	1	32	6

* Escaped.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The rainfall at Accra during the last five years has been as follows:—

1888 - - - - - -	34·96 inches.
1889 - - - - - -	25·56 inches.
1890 - - - - - -	29·535 inches.
1891 - - - - - -	28·97 inches.
1892 - - - - - -	29·27 inches.

In 1892 the highest shade temperature registered at Accra was 89° 92″ at 5 p.m. in March, and the lowest 62° 99″ at 9 a.m. in June. The hottest months are February, March, April, and May, and the coolest July, August, and September.

At the botanical station on the hills at Aburi the rainfall in 1891 was 55·14 inches and in 1892 43·25 inches. In June 1891 the rainfall at the station was unusually heavy, reaching a total of 20·03 inches.

SAVINGS BANKS.

A Government Savings Bank system was established on the 1st January 1888 by Ordinance No. 15 of 1887. Interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. is paid upon deposits by any one depositor not exceeding 500*l.* in the aggregate.

On the 31st December 1892 there were nine banks open, and the following table shows the progress which has been made in the five years during which the system has been in operation:—

Name of Bank.	Number of Depositors on the 31st December.					Amount standing to credit of Depositors on the 31st December.				
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
						£	£	£	£	£ s.
Accra - - - -	38	47	59	85	89	939	2,023	1,873	2,451	2,555 0
Ada - - -	—	117	118	96	87	—	1,113	142	106	33 0
Cape Coast - - -	3	6	12	14	23	11	75	134	329	536 0
Chama* - - - -	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	0 11
Elmina† - - - -	—	—	—	14	14	—	—	—	123	158 0
Kwitta - - - -	—	1	7	7	9	—	2	54	84	153 0
Saltpond‡ - - -	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	12	2	2 0
Tarkwa§ - -	—	—	—	9	33	—	—	—	50	61 0
Winneba‖ - - -	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	6	11 0
Total - -	41	171	198	229	264	£950	3,213	2,215	3,151	3,509 11

* Opened 1st March 1892. † Opened 1st March 1891. ‡ Opened 1st July 1889. § Opened 1st March 1891. ‖ Opened 1st July 1889.

It is unsatisfactory to find that the progress of the Savings Banks is so slow, but thrift is to a certain extent dependent upon education, and as education advances so will the natives learn to become thrifty. Still there would, it is believed, be more depositors but for the prevailing practice of petty trading. A man with a few shillings will buy small commodities of saleable value, and, raising the price, will start up country as a hawker and having sold his goods will with the proceeds purchase at a low cost rubber or monkey skins. With these he will return to the coast, and, selling them at their market value, start afresh as a hawker on a somewhat larger scale than before. The small number of Savings Bank depositors must not therefore be taken as a correct index to the thrift of the population.

I have referred, under the head of education, to the establishment of penny banks in the principal schools of the Colony. The money deposited in these penny banks is lodged in the local Government Savings Bank.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

Post Office.—There is a tri-weekly postal service along the whole coast line from Accra to Kwitta on the east, and from Accra to Axim on the west; a tri-weekly service from Accra to the Government station at Akuse on the Volta passing through and serving the countries of Akwapim and Eastern and Western Krobo; a weekly service from Axim to Half Assinie; and a bi-weekly service from Chama to the Gold Mines in Wassaw. The mails are carried on foot, and it is estimated that 122,226 miles are traversed annually by the 42 postmen employed for the purpose, giving each man an average of 8 miles a day assuming a continuous daily employment throughout the year.

There is an inland money order service in force between the principal coast towns, and the introduction of the system of sending small sums of money through the post by means of postal orders of fixed value has been decided upon. (The sale of postal orders of the value of 1*s.*, 1*s.* 6*d.*, 2*s.* 6*d.*, 5*s.*, 10*s.* and 20*s.* was commenced on the 1st March 1893.)

A parcel post with the United Kingdom, and through the United Kingdom with all countries with which there are parcels posts arrangements in force, was commenced on the 1st February 1888, and a similar post has since been established with the West African Colonies of Lagos, Sierra Leone, and Gambia.

The following table gives the principal postal statistics since the separation of Lagos from this Colony:—

Year.	No. of Post Offices.	Estimated No. of Letters &c. Posted.	No. of Money Order Offices.	Money Orders.				Parcels.	
				Inland.		Foreign.		Number received.	No. Despatched.
				No.	Value.	No.	Value.		
					£ s. d.		£ s. d.		
1887 - -	17	103,260	2	432	1,477 17 9	1,716	10,473 15 1	—	—
1888 - -	17	111,041	2	425	1,939 8 2	1,387	6,709 3 7	—	—
1889 - -	26	146,905	2	363	1,209 19 1	1,175	4,572 2 6	1,000	407
1890 - -	26	161,726	2	399	1,681 11 11	1,213	3,481 18 0	1,524	378
1891 - -	30	205,035	3	562	1,985 1 4	1,549	5,142 18 4	1,871	497
1892 - -	30	225,293	5	904	3,193 8 0	1,970	7,251 1 11	1,799	564

GOLD COAST. 1892.

Telegraphs.—The erection of telegraph lines in the Colony was commenced in 1882, but it was not until the 24th May 1887 that arrangements could be made for the public to have access to the wires for the despatch of telegrams, and that telegraph offices were opened. Prior to that date the wires were used entirely by the Government. On the 24th May 1887, nine telegraph offices were opened for the receipt of public messages, but only in a tentative manner, because in the notice announcing the fact it was expressly stated that Government messages were to have priority of transmission over the messages of the public, and that the Government reserved to itself the right to refuse any message it might wish so to do and to close the lines to the public at any time it deemed advisable. The rates of charge fixed were 1*s.* per 20 words and 3*d.* for each additional 5 words with free addresses; and these rates are still in force. Notwithstanding the restrictions to which the messages of the public were subjected and which no longer exist 4,399 paid messages were handed in and despatched between the 24th May and 31st December 1887, yielding a revenue of 250*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* From the 24th May 1887 until the 1st June 1891, telegraph work was conducted by the Post Office staff, but on the latter date the telegraphs were formed into a separate department, as stated under the head of Civil Establishment.

On the 24th May 1887 there were 108 miles of telegraph lines, and on the 31st December 1891 the length had been increased to 265 miles. Since the 1st June 1891 considerable attention has been paid to the condition of the lines, and whereas before that date interruptions of communication were of frequent occurrence they are now rare. The lines are in good order, and the service is satisfactory.

The several Government offices in Accra are connected by telephone to a central exchange (18 connexions) with which exchange also the Government Sanitarium at Aburi—a distance of 26 miles—is in telephonic communication.

The Government accepts the cable messages of the African Direct Telegraph Company at all its offices, and also undertakes the delivery of such messages. In 1892 808 cablegrams of the value of 1,822*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* were accepted while 708 such telegrams were delivered.

The following table shows the progress of the telegraphs since May 24th 1887:—

Year.	Number of Offices.	Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams dealt with.				Receipts.		
			Public.	Government.	Cable.	Totals.	Inland Telegrams.	For Cable Company.	Totals.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 -	9	108	4,399	17,130	—	21,529	252 0 9	—	252 0 9
1888 -	1	178	9,243	27,223	—	36,466	518 7 0	—	518 7 0
1889 -	11	178	14,493	22,481	715	37,689	786 1 0	904 4 7	1,690 5 7
1890 -	12	178	17,722	22,286	1,029	41,037	927 6 0	1,233 13 3	2,260 19 3
1891 -	13	210	17,513	21,157	1,274	39,944	1,015 10 9	1,586 17 1	2,692 7 10
1892 -	16	265	19,773	25,365	1,516	46,654	1,182 18 4	1,822 7 0	3,005 5 4

The telegraph lines run along the coast from Kwitta on the one side to Axim on the other (on the 31st December 1892 the extension to Axim had not been quite completed, but the line was open to the public as far as Dixcove) and there is a line to the Hill station and Government Sanitarium at Aburi. Steps are about to be taken to extend the telegraphs from Kwitta to Danoe, and to erect a new line from Ada to the Government station at Akuse with an extension thence to Kpong.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION.

There are very few roads worthy of the name, and communication between the trade ports and the interior is for the most part maintained by native tracks either cleared of bush by the Native Chiefs at fitful intervals or kept more or less clear by the traffic passing over them. Within the immediate neighbourhood of the several Government stations these bush tracks are as a rule in fair order, the Native Chiefs being under the more direct supervision of the District Commissioner, but even then considerable difficulty often occurs in getting the chiefs to clear away the bush which in a tropical climate grows with such rapidity; and in the rainy seasons the tracks being by constant use more concave than convex become, where they pass through low-lying land, conduits for the surface drainage of the surrounding country and almost useless for traffic. In one or two isolated cases the chiefs have converted their tracks into fair roads, but such action on their part has either been brought about by an energetic Commissioner or by pressure on the part of the Government accompanied by a present of money.

The only roads in the Colony which may be fairly so designated are those which are entirely under Government supervision. These are the road between Accra and Christiansborg, a distance of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and the road from the latter place to the Government Sanitarium at Aburi, a distance of 26 miles. In addition to these two Government roads, the military road between Cape Coast and Prahsu; the road from Aburi through Akwapim and Eastern and Western Krobo to Kpong and Akuse; and the road from Chama to Tarkwa (Lower Wassaw) are all under more or less constant Government supervision and on that account are either in good order or two or three stages in advance of the native bush tracks. In Akwamu and British Krepi the bush tracks are well looked after by the native Chiefs and could be converted into roads without much difficulty.

The native Chiefs who can be induced to keep their tracks clear of bush and passable for traders and travellers at all periods of the year are paid 10*s.* a quarter per mile, and cutlasses and hatchets are loaned to them by the Government to assist them in the work. In recent years a road overseer has been appointed in each Commissioner's district for the purpose of inspecting the

tracks and enabling the Government to know by trustworthy reports that the Chiefs have fairly earned their road subsidies.

On the 15th February 1890 an officer was specially appointed Inspector of Trade Roads. Under his supervision the native track between Anyako, a town on the lagoon behind Kwitta and Beve, a distance of 25 miles inland, was in 1890–91 converted into a road, and a similar process is now being applied to the much frequented coast track between the towns of Cape Coast and Anamaboe.

On the 10th and 14th August 1892 two additional officers were respectively appointed Sub-inspectors of Trade Roads, and on the 26th October 1892 a third Sub-Inspector was appointed. These officers have been supplied with gangs of labourers and have been employed on the Cape Coast Prahsu military road and the trade track from Cape Coast to Denkera and Sefwhi.

The country is intersected by several rivers, the principal of which are the Volta, Prah, and Ankobra. The Volta and Ankobra are extensively used as trade waterways. They are navigable for steam launches from 80 to 100 miles, but their upper reaches are obstructed by rapids, and throughout their courses navigation is frequently rendered difficult by the prevalence of rocks and snags. The trade in timber which is now springing into existence has brought the rivers of the Colony under notice as important means of communication with the coast.

The question of intersecting the country with light railways has been under consideration, and has advanced to the stage of a preliminary survey of the country for that purpose. On the 5th February 1893 Captain Lang, R.E., the officer selected for this special work, arrived in the Colony, and in company with Mr. Foord, a Civil Engineer experienced in railway work, proceeded to commence the survey, including the selection of a suitable place on the coast for conversion into a harbour for the landing of heavy material required for the construction and working of the lines. At present along the whole surf-bound coast line of the Colony there is no harbour of any kind and no quay which lighters and launches can run alongside with heavy material and stores. All goods and stores are at present landed in surf boats, often at great difficulty on account of the surf, and the question of the best way of providing means to ensure the safe unloading of heavy material into lighters, and of facilities for unloading the lighters themselves, necessarily obtrudes itself in connection with the laying down and working of lines of railway in the Colony.

General Remarks.

Under the head of agriculture I have stated that the soil of the Gold Coast is admirably adapted to the cultivation of a vast quantity of products of market value. Equally with other tropical countries the soil is varied and practically inexhaustible.

GOLD COAST. 1892.

Against the development of the Colony by means of English capital there lies upon it the stigma of a baneful climate. But I cannot help thinking that by clearing the waterways of the Colony and thus improving the drainage of the country, by converting the bush tracks into decent roads and so improving the ventilation of the country, by a gradual conversion of the dense bush into cultivated areas, by the enforcement in the interior towns and villages of the sanitary laws which have proved so useful and advantageous in the coast towns, and by improving the means of transport, thereby enabling Europeans resident at a distance from the trade ports to have ready access to good food and the various comforts of civilization to which they have been accustomed and which they more than ever want in a tropical country, the climate of the Gold Coast will lose its notoriety and the country will become, equally with other tropical countries, a safe means for the investment of capital.

The greatest hindrance to the rapid development of trade is the want of proper means of transport. So long as every gallon of palm oil, every hundredweight of rubber, every fathom of cloth, and every pound of gunpowder has to be carried on men's heads to and from the interior, the amount of trade must necessarily be narrowed, and will be confined to those articles which can be transported by the primitive means in force or which will bear the heavy increase of price entailed by the cost of carriage. The construction of roads from the trade ports through the oil and rubber producing districts to the interior, the formation of a harbour where heavy goods can be safely disembarked and landed, and the laying down of lines of light railway in those parts of the country where there is reasonable possibility of a paying traffic will, besides opening up a country with a potentiality of wealth sufficient to make the Colony rich and prosperous, have the effect of increasing commerce, civilizing the natives, and implanting in their minds new wants for the gratification of which they will be aroused to industry.

(Signed) F. M. HODGSON,
Colonial Secretary.

Accra, Gold Coast,
27th June 1893.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 52

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 23.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1893.

[C.—6857-2.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
16	Barbados	1890
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 52.

GRENADA.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 23.]

Sir W. HELY HUTCHINSON to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

St. Vincent, August 26, 1892.

FORWARDED. With regard to the telephone system, which is a great success, it is due to Mr. Drayton, the Colonial Secretary, to say that its success is mainly due to his personal exertions.

(Signed) WALTER HELY HUTCHINSON.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c. &c.

Government Office, Grenada,
August 23, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Secretary of State the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1891, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON.
Administrator.

His Excellency the Governor,
&c. &c. &c.
St. Vincent.

I 73470. Wt. 10230.

GRENADA. 1891.

REPORT on BLUE BOOK of GRENADA for 1891.

Sources of Revenue.

An important change was effected at the close of the year in the taxation of land and houses by levying a uniform tax of 1*s.* an acre on lands in lieu of 1*s.* 6*d.* on cultivated and 6*d.* on uncultivated lands, and by increasing the house tax from 5*s.* on houses assessed at less than 10*l.* per annum to 6*s.* when assessed at 10*l.*, or under, and from 4½ per cent. when of the value of 10*l.* or more, to 6 per cent. when exceeding 10*l.*

At the same time the byeway rates, previously levied by the parochial boards for maintenance of second-class byeways, were abolished; a tax commissioner was appointed, and provision made for better collection of the tax in future. These changes, however, did not take effect until the present year.

2. An alteration was made in the water rates levied in connection with the St. Pauls and Richmond Hill water supply by fixing a rate of 5*s.* on houses within the rateable area of the annual value of £10 and under instead of 6 per cent. thereon.

3. The fee for a licence to deal in cocoa and nutmegs was increased from 1*l.* to 5*l.* per half year, and an additional liquor licence was provided under Class 4 enabling the Government to license premises within a mile of a town boundary at a reduced rate.

4. The change in the land tax and its collection was a much needed reform, for not only did the different rates on cultivated and uncultivated lands cause much evasion of the tax, but there was practically no control or check over this important section of the revenue, and as it was collected at a time of the year when money is most scarce in the community, and as the parochial byeway rate (another tax on lands and tenements) had to be paid at another time of the year, the proper amount of revenue under this head was never collected.

The period now fixed for payment of the tax, March to May, is that when the receipts for the cocoa crop are in full circulation in the colony, and it is intended to devote the entire yield of the tax (estimated at £6,100 in the current year) to the maintenance of the roads.

5. The collection of export duty was suspended during the year, and the usual additional import duty of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* on articles not specified in or exempted by the tariff was imposed

Revenue.

6. The revenue of 1891 was 54,018*l.*, the highest on record. This satisfactory result is chiefly due to the improved collection of

ustoms and excise duties rendered possible by the rearrangement of the Treasury staff, the establishment of a Revenue cruiser, and the change in the system of distillation referred to in last year's report. The receipts from excise duty on rum amounted to 10,133*l.*, being 1,917*l.* more than in the previous year, and in 1892 they are expected to exceed 12,000*l.*; in 1887 they realised only 5,223*l.* A detailed comparative statement of the revenues of 1890 and 1891 under the several heads is subjoined.

Head of Revenue.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs - - -	25,390	24,760	630	—
2. Licenses, excise, and internal revenue not otherwise specified - - - -	24,548	16,510	8,038	—
3. Fees of office, payments for specific services, and reimbursements in aid - -	2,028	6,371	—	4,343
4. Post Office - - -	1,041	913	128	—
5. Rent of Government property -	390	410	—	20
6. Interest - - -	297	122	175	—
7. Miscellaneous receipts - -	36	130	—	94
8. Land sales - - -	288	51	237	—
Total -	54,018	49,267	9,208	4,457
	49,267	—	4,457	—
Increase in 1891 -	4,751	—	4,751	—

Expenditure.

7. The expenditure was also the highest on record, being 56,450*l.*, or 3,093*l.*, more than in 1890, as shown in the following comparative statement:—

Head of Expenditure.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on account of public debt -	1,929	2,032	—	103
2. Pensions - - - -	739	638	101	—
3. The Governor and Legislature -	2,211	2,446	—	235
4. Colonial Secretary - - -	2,063	1,961	102	—
5. Treasury, Customs, &c. - -	6,528	3,438	3,090	—
6. Audit - - - -	444	581	—	137
7. Legal - - - -	4,595	4,427	168	—

Head of Expenditure.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
(*Continued.*)	£	£	£	£
8. Police	4,335	4,181	154	—
9. Prisons	1,191	1,115	76	—
10. Medical	6,708	6,321	387	—
11. Education	5,264	4,943	321	—
12. Ecclesiastical	517	520	—	3
13. Charitable	492	415	77	—
14. Miscellaneous	4,064	2,485	1,579	—
15. Post Office	2,337	2,258	79	—
16. Agricultural	546	410	136	—
17. Public Works Department	2,249	1,833	416	—
18. Public Works, Recurrent	8,881	9,430	—	549
19. Public Works, Extraordinary	1,357	3,665	—	2,308
20. Port and Marine	—	257	—	257
Totals	56,450	53,356	6,686	3,592
	53,356	—	3,592	—
Increase in 1891	3,094	—	3,094	—

8. It will be seen that the chief heads under which an increase appears are Treasury, Miscellaneous, and Public Works Department. The first is due to the establishment and maintenance of a revenue cruiser, to the heavy outlay on the new distillery apparatus, a moiety of which is paid by the Government, and to the purchase of premises in St. George's for use as a warehouse. All of this is productive of revenue.

The miscellaneous expenditure includes a subsidy at the rate of 1,000*l.* per annum to a direct line of steamers between the Colony and New York, with the object of developing a fruit trade and of securing another market for local produce, the expenses of the census, and of the representation of the Colony at the Jamaica Exhibition, sundry grants from escheated properties to persons with moral claims, and a grant in aid of the sufferers from the terrible fire in Martinique. The increase under Public Works Department is caused by the importation of a foreman carpenter from England, a step already productive of the best results, and by the transfer of the salaries of the road foremen to this head from another.

Financial Position.

9. The surplus assets of the Colony at 31st December were 3,509*l.*, as shown in the following statement :—

Assets.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in Colonial chest		197 1 8
On deposit in Colonial Bank		920 3 6
Invested in South Australian 4 Per Cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value, 3,805*l.*)		4,000 0 0
Advances as follows :—		
Parochial Boards, Loan Works	9,172 12 9	
Distillery apparatus	1,078 8 1	
Primary School Books	253 3 0	
Authorised advances	730 17 11	
Public Works Loan Works	12,649 12 10	
St. Lucia account	1,654 17 1	
St. Vincent ditto	921 16 6	
Trinidad and Tobago account	28 13 4	
Loans to Parochial Boards from General Revenue	1,100 0 0	
Surplus stores, Public Works Department	1,794 2 4	
		29,375 3 10
		£34,492 9 0

Liabilities.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits, as follows :—		
Savings bank	7,599 13 2	
Immigration fund	2,004 15 11	
Sinking Fund, Public Works Loan	2,155 9 2	
Fire insurance fund	1,939 8 10	
Deposits on sight entries	40 0 2	
Post Office	621 0 3	
St. Paul's water supply	455 4 10	
Governor's office fund	20 15 6	
Petty Debt Courts' deposits	14 15 10	
Lands Acquisition deposits	5 0 0	
Supreme Court Unclaimed deposits	40 4 0	
Suspense Account	154 19 0	
Prisons' Manufacturing Account	72 13 9	
		15,124 0 5
Due to Crown Agents :—		
On current account	14,859 7 0	
Draft Maturing	1,000 0 0	
		15,859 7 0
		30,983 7 5
Surplus assets		3,509 1 7
		£34,492 9 0

GRENADA. 1891.

10. The net public debt at the same date was 42,320*l.* exclusive of a loan of 1,000*l.* raised in 1879 for the St. George's Waterworks, the repayment of which in twenty years by the parochial board is guaranteed on the security of the general revenue.

In the course of the year ordinances were passed authorising the creation of Grenada Inscribed Stock, and empowering the Government to convert the existing debentures into stock and to borrow a further sum of 50,000*l.* for public works. The loan has been floated in the current year and a Stock Exchange quotation obtained as a present issue of 80,000*l.* at 102–104.

Local Boards.

11. At the end of the year the parochial boards were relieved of the care and maintenance of the second-class byeways, and their duties were restricted to the towns, except where, as in St. George's and Carriacou, water rates are collected beyond the town boundaries. The receipts and disbursements of these bodies in the year ended 30th September, 1891, and their debt at 31st December, are detailed below :—

Parish.	Revenue 1890–91.	Expenditure 1890–91.	Debt at 31st December 1891, including arrears of interest.
	£	£	£
St. George - -	2,836	2,638	7,031
St. John - -	801	637	2,657
St. Mark - -	392	455	482
St. Patrick - -	763	736	1,158
St. Andrew - -	2,632	2,783	1,433
St. David - -	264	225	—
Carriacou - -	331	671	414
Total - - £	8,019	8,145	3,175

12. During the year the Grenville Board re-constructed and added to the jetty in the harbour at a cost of 950*l.*, borrowed from the Government. The work has been well executed, and is a great benefit to the town and district.

A similar work was begun by the Victoria Board, at an estimated cost of 1,100*l.*, and at this date is almost completed. All of the towns in the island will then be provided with jetties, rendering the shipment of produce and the transport of passengers, formerly difficult and at times dangerous, comparatively easy and simple.

Public Works and Roads.

13. 20,906*l.* was expended on public works and roads during the year, 10,668*l.* being from loan funds, and 10,238*l.* from general revenue; of this latter amount 6,188*l.* was for the ordinary upkeep of roads.

14. The bridging of the rivers at Balthazard, Castigne, and Victoria, was completed, and another bridge at Belmont, on the main road between Sauteurs and Grenville was commenced; the re-construction of the main roads from St. George's to Grenville along the coast and from Grenville to Gonyave across the island was continued, and the Sauteurs-Grenville main road completed.

15. The most important road work of the year was, however, the reconstruction of the second-class byeways, the arteries which connect the highways with the inland cultivated area. 6,216*l.* was expended on them up to 31st December under the supervision of Committees composed of the principal landowners in the various parishes; the work has been thoroughly done, and its importance to the Colony cannot be too highly estimated, as it is obvious that however good the main roads may be, their value is but little if the produce cannot be brought down to them from the interior of the island. The inception of this important work is due to the present Governor, who has also taken the most lively interest in its progress; it is, indeed, the fact that every detail has received his personal attention, and that every byeway in the island has been visited by him, most of them repeatedly, during the progress of the work.

16. The success of the byeway committees has brought about a most important change in the system of road maintenance. By an Ordinance which came into full force on the 31st December, all roads are handed over to the care of boards, one for each parish, composed of the principal landowners or their attorneys, holding office during pleasure and directly responsible to the Government. The roads in each parish are divided up by the boards among the several members, who employ the necessary labourers at rates of wages settled by the board, and personally supervise the work. The pay-sheets are certified by these delegates and sent to the Treasury, where, when checked, they are paid by a Treasury officer in the district to which they relate. The accounts of the roads are kept in the Treasury, and the expenditure is thus completely under control.

The system is working admirably.

17. Next to the road work of the year in importance was the establishment of a complete system of telephone exchanges in the island, begun in July. On account of the distances which divide the various centres, and the difficulty of getting about, communication by telephone is peculiarly acceptable in Grenada, and the success which has so far attended the scheme has been considerable.

GRENADA. 1891.

At the date of writing this report there are three exchanges at work, with 102 connections; two more are in course of erection, and it is safe to estimate that about 150 telephones will eventually be connected. The receipts for rent of instruments are expected to cover cost of maintenance, interest and sinking fund on the loan for cost of construction, and to provide a reserve fund as well.

18. On the repair and general improvement of public buildings 1583*l.* was spent, the lighthouse at Fort George was completed, and the drainage and walks of the Botanic Garden put in thorough order. A commencement was made of the work on the lunatic asylum, which it is proposed to completely remodel; so as to make it capable of fully accommodating the lunatics of the three colonies of the Windward Islands and giving them proper treatment. The alterations and additions to a building in Gonyave, which was purchased with the object of converting it into public buildings for that town, were begun, and are now approaching completion.

Legislation.

19. Twenty-two Ordinances became law during the year; the most important of these have been already referred to, and it is only necessary to notice the following:—

No. 2. The Land Surveyor's Ordinance, 1890.
No. 4. The Birds and Fish Protection Ordinance, 1891.
No. 6. The Purchase of Cocoa and Nutmegs Amendment Ordinance, 1891.
No. 11. The Inflammable Goods Ordinance, 1891.
No. 12. The St. George's Harbour Ordinance, 1891.

No. 2 regulates the licensing and control of land surveyors; No. 4 provides close seasons for oysters and turtle and certain valuable birds, and makes it an offence to catch turtle or their eggs on the land; No. 6 enacts very stringent provisions against theft of cocoa and nutmegs, the staple products of the Colony, and empowers the Courts to flog male offenders; No. 11 prohibits the importation of volatile petroleum, and establishes a system of tests for that end; No. 12 abolishes the office of Harbour Master and places the harbour under the control of the Treasury Department, the harbour duties being discharged by one of the Revenue staff with the title of Port Officer.

Councils.

20. Mr. C. Messervy, Director of Public Works in the Windward Islands, was appointed to an official seat in the Legislative Council in January. Temporary vacancies in the official section

were filled by Messrs. J. F. L. Payne, Police Magistrate of the Southern District, and C. F. Anton, Registrar of the Supreme Court; and on the unofficial side by Messrs. John R. Bertrand, Captain M. Short, and W. Copland.

Establishments.

21. During the Governor's periodical visits to the other Colonies of his government the administration devolved on Mr. H. R. Pipon Schooles, the Attorney-General, by virtue of a commission issued to him by the Governor; Mr. E. Drayton acted as Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Low as Treasurer for the whole year, during the continued absence of Mr. L. R. Fyfe, the Colonial Secretary, on account of ill-health. Mr. H. Reeve, Director of Surveys in the Windward Islands, acted as Director of Public Works, in the absence of Mr. Messervy on leave.

The offices of road surveyors were abolished in the course of the year, the surveyor of the Northern district being given an abolition allowance, and the surveyor of the Southern district being appointed to be a revenue officer.

Pensions.

22. The pension list of the Colony was increased by the following grants:—

	£	s.	d.
Joseph Worall, late revenue officer -	7	4	9
Walter Gibbs, late Treasury messenger -	9	12	0
R. J. Graves, late road surveyor -	30	0	0
R. Toussaint, late matron, poor asylum	5	6	8
	£52	3	5

Pensioners in receipt of 14*l.* a year died, and the total amount payable by the Colony at 31st December was 778*l.*

Vital Statistics.

23. The population, according to the census of 5th April 1891, was 53,209, being an increase of 10,806, or 25·48 per cent. on the number returned at the census of 1881.

The mean annual birth-rate in the decennial period was 43·73 per thousand, and the death-rate 24, which will bear very favourable comparison with any other West Indian Colony.

24. The estimated population at 31st December 1891, was 54,062, and the birth and death rates for the year, 45·94, and 21·91 per thousand respectively.

GRENADA. 1891.

Education.

25. A comparative abstract of the primary education returns for the years 1891 and 1890 is appended.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars.				Income.			Expenditure.
		On Roll.		Total on Roll.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
		Boys.	Girls.			£	£		£
Government -	9	832	573	1,405	755	136	1,233	—	1,369
Assisted:—									
Anglican - -	7	743	540	1,283	707	162	833	—	1,055
Roman Catholic	10	1,214	1,162	2,376	1,153	169	1,207	—	1,376
Wesleyan -	5	473	430	903	513	88	677	—	765
Presbyterian -	1	106	82	188	118	13	122	—	136
Totals for 1891-	32	3,368	2,787	6,155	3,246	568	4,132	—	4,701
„ „ 1890-	31	3,227	2,582	5,809	3,063	691	3,545	—	4,236
Increase in 1891-	1	141	205	346	183	Decrease.	587	—	465

The Roman Catholic School at Grand Ance was placed on the list of assisted schools during the year.

26. The St. George's Grammar School continued on a satisfactory footing.

The annual examination resulted in 31 boys obtaining more than half marks, and the examiner reports that "the work of the school has been done well and conscientiously. The late head master" (Mr. C. H. Johnson) "deserves much credit for what has been accomplished."

There were 43 boys on the roll, and the income of the school, including the Government grant of 400*l.*, was 535*l.*

Imports and Exports.

27. The amount and direction of the trade of the Colony in the last five years is shown below:—

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 -	73,306	47,787	22,093	143,186	185,216	10,612	22,121	217,949
1888 -	82,597	52,522	27,318	162,437	202,684	9,182	17,397	229,263
1889 -	87,762	45,733	40,586	174,081	172,912	7,515	15,168	195,595
1890 -	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
1891 -	97,895	31,512	47,523	176,930	218,600	8,672	9,371	236,643
Totals -	434,818	214,838	177,852	827,508	1,020,633	14,863	80,256	1,145,752
Average -	86,964	42,968	35,570	165,502	204,127	8,973	16,051	229,150

A comparative statement of the value of the principal exports in the same period is appended :—

Year.	Cocoa.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fruit.	Fire-wood.	Hides.	Live Stock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - -	185,412	8,048	1,368	110	1,170	437	2,742
1888 - -	199,902	7,632	1,413	167	1,098	547	3,230
1889 - -	166,178	6,714	1,182	151	842	641	3,312
1890 - -	228,889	7,973	1,503	426	1,231	302	3,116
1891 - -	200,267	8,194	1,783	600	1,096	434	2,696
Totals -	980,648	38,561	7,249	1,454	5,437	2,361	15,096
Average -	196,130	7,712	1,450	291	1,087	472	3,019

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Manure.	Peas.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.	Log-wood.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - -	301	3,063	484	9,709	1,920	280	301
1888 - -	766	1,487	580	9,429	697	200	147
1889 - -	938	431	451	10,220	2,225	280	273
1890 - -	614	850	597	15,955	642	300	1,460
1891 - -	171	998	560	12,598	1,905	714	708
Totals -	2,790	6,829	2,672	57,911	7,389	1,774	2,889
Average -	558	1,366	534	11,582	1,478	355	578

28. It will be seen that the trade with British Colonies continues to decrease and that the bulk of the imports now come direct from the United Kingdom and foreign countries.

Of the 47,523*l.*, value of imports from foreign places, 46,517*l.* came from the United States of America; in 1881 the corresponding figures were 11,665*l.*; and of the 9,371*l.* exported to foreign countries, 4,437*l.* went to the United States; in 1881 there was nothing sent there.

Shipping.

29. The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year is shown below :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	172	249,735	168	246,870
Sailing Vessels - -	340	9,055	332	9,436
Totals - -	512	258,790	500	256,306

Prisons.

30. The subjoined table compares the chief prison statistics for the last five years :—

Year.	Number of Persons committed.				No. of persons committed who have been previously convicted.	Daily Average in Prison.	Admissions into Hospital.	Daily average on Sick List.
	For Debt.	For safe Custody.	For penal Imprisonment.	Totals.				
1887 -	3	54	205	262	63	62·73	21	1·62
1888 -	3	47	153	203	56	55·75	15	2·98
1889 -	3	53	244	300	89	64·22	18	3·51
1890 -	2	44	196	242	74	59·86	25	2·56
1891 -	6	47	189	242	75	73·13	19	3·02

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Deaths, excluding Executions.	Cost of Prisons.	Value of Work done by Prisoners.	Per-centage of Committals of Persons previously convicted.	Cost of a Prisoner.		
					Annual.	Daily.	For Diet, per Day.
		£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.
1887 -	—	1,224	1,318	30·73	19 10 1	0 1 1	3
1888 -	1	1,328	1,256	36·60	23 14 3	0 1 3½	3½
1889 -	2	1,231	1,303	36·48	19 4 8	0 1 0¾	2¾
890 -	1	1,160	1,304	38·27	19 6 7	0 1 1	2¾
1891 -	—	1,281	1,593	39·68	17 11 0	0 0 11½	3

The annual cost of a prisoner to the Colony has decreased from 25*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* in 1884 to 17*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.*, in 1891, and it will be noticed that the prisons are in reality self-supporting, as the value of their work exceeds their annual cost. For these satisfactory results much credit is due to the energetic and painstaking superintendent, Mr. J. M. Lash.

Criminal Statistics.

31. An abstract of the criminal statistics for the last four years, exhibiting the difference in 1891 from the averages of that period, is appended. The Attorney-General remarks in his annual report—"In view of the fact that the last census shows a very considerable increase of the population of Grenada, the present criminal statistical returns speak as favourably for the law-abiding character of the population as any which have hitherto been compiled."

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	Average.	Difference in 1891 from Average.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
Offences reported to the police - -	594	649	666	1,041	737	304	—
Apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - - -	1,279	1,356	1,112	1,168	1,229	—	61
Summary convictions:—							
Offences against the person - - -	241	379	311	294	306	—	12
Prædial larceny - - - -	18	31	26	27	26	1	—
Other offences against property - -	150	209	182	167	177	—	10
Other offences - - - - -	468	342	317	614	435	179	—
Total summary convictions - -	877	961	836	1,102	944	158	—

(*Continued.*)

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	Average.	Difference in 1891 from Average. Increase.	Difference in 1891 from Average. Decrease.
Convictions in the superior courts:—							
Offences against the person	7	11	3	7	7	—	—
Prædial larceny	—	4	1	4	2	2	—
Other offences against property	13	12	13	17	14	3	—
Other offences	1	1	9	4	4	—	—
Total convictions in the superior courts	21	28	26	32	27	5	—
Persons acquitted:—							
In inferior courts	356	337	437	397	382	15	—
In superior courts	16	38	9	12	19	—	7
Total acquittals	372	375	446	409	401	8	—

Hospitals and Asylums.

32. The principal statistics under this head for 1890 and 1891 are given below:—

Institution.	No. of Admissions.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged. Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Number Deaths.
Colony Hospital	617	75·66	471	100	—	44
Yaws Hospital	178	37·66	137	—	—	1
St. Andrew's Hospital	89	7	52	23	2	6
Carriacou Hospital	111	9	90	6	6	3
Total hospitals	995	129·32	750	129	8	54
Lunatic Asylum	30	78·	10	2	—	11
Poor Asylum	21	48·	—	—	—	14
Totals	1,046	255·32	760	131	8	79
Totals for 1890	879	235·37	656	147	17	74

33. The St. John's District Hospital was closed early in the year, as it was found that the patients from that part of the colony could more efficiently and economically be treated in the Colony Hospital in St. George's, with which there is daily communication by steamer.

34. The Administration of the Colony Hospital was much improved under the care of Dr. W. Boyd, the house surgeon.

Savings Bank.

35. The Savings Bank continues to progress, as will be seen from the subjoined return of its transactions for the five years 1887–91:—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1887 - -	343	3,757	2,447	5,041
1888 - -	277	4,804	4,319	5,632
1889 - -	583	4,709	4,308	6,295
1890 - -	723	5,441	4,882	6,853
1891 - -	637	6,112	5,356	7,610

That the people in the out districts take advantage of the branch banks, is shown by the fact that there were 175 depositors in them at the end of the year, with 1,086*l.* to their credit; the corresponding figures for 1890 were 136 and 814*l.*

General Remarks.

36. In conclusion, attention may justly be drawn to the continued progress and prosperity of the Colony, the outward signs of which are to be seen in the remarkable increase of the population in the last decade, the expansion of trade, and the increase of the revenue. Every effort is being made by the Government to direct and stimulate the advance of the colony, and the future is full of promise.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

Grenada,
19th August, 1892.

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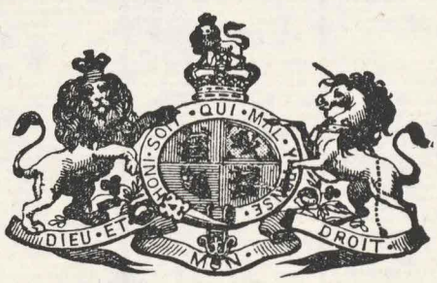
No. 82.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 52.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty
August 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-32.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 &'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 82.

GRENADA.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 52.]

Sir W. HELY HUTCHINSON to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

MY LORD, Grenada, June 1, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Colonial Secretary's Report on the Blue Book relating to this Colony for the year 1892.

2. I am aware that this report was practically ready two months ago, but its completion was delayed owing to the non-receipt of one or two of the Returns.

3. The Blue Book itself will be transmitted to your Lordship shortly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WALTER HELY HUTCHINSON.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on GRENADA BLUE BOOK for 1892.

Sources of Revenue.

No alteration was made in existing taxation during the year, but the change in the land and house tax referred to in last year's report came into operation, and a new source of revenue in the shape of rental of telephones was developed. As in previous years the collection of export duties was suspended, and an additional *ad valorem* duty of 2½ per cent. was levied on articles not specified in or exempted by the tariff.

Revenue.

2. The Revenue of 1892 was 55,820*l.*, being 1,802*l.* in excess of that of 1891, which was the largest on record up to that year. The increase was due to the transfer of the police reward fund (the system of making reductions from police pay being abolished and the payment of police pensions and rewards becoming a charge on general revenue); to increased receipts from rum duty and land and house tax, consequent on improved methods of collection; to the revenue from the new telephone service; and to increased business at the Post Office. There was, however, a decrease of 1,706*l.* in Customs duties as compared with 1891, in which year the receipts were abnormal. The value of imports in 1892 was about 18,000*l.* less than in 1891, a result due in some measure to smuggling, but also to the exceptional rainfall, which caused delay in the cocoa crop.

3. The receipts from rum duty and land and house tax deserve special notice. The improved excise system produced a yield of 11,775*l.*, being 1,642*l* more than in 1891, and 6,552*l.* more than in 1887, the last year of unbridled smuggling. There was, however, an outbreak of illicit distillation at the close of the year which caused an estimated loss to the revenue of nearly 1,000*l.* The land and house tax realized 6,316*l.*—the average receipts of the ten preceding years were 4,800*l.*

4. A comparative statement of the revenues of the two years is subjoined :—

Head of Revenue.	1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	23,684	25,390	—	1,706
Licenses, &c. - - -	26,781	24,548	2,233	—
Fees of office - - -	927	2,028	—	1,101
Post Office - - -	1,358	1,041	317	—
Telephone - - - -	639	—	639	—
Rent of Government property -	378	390	—	12
Interest - - - -	617	297	320	—
Miscellaneous receipts - -	89	36	53	—
Transfer from Police Reward and Reserve Fund - - -	895	—	895	—
Land sales - - -	452	288	164	—
Total - -	55,820	54,018	4,621	2,819
	54,018	—	2,819	—
Increase in 1892 - -	1,802	—	1,802	—

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure was 59,260*l.*, or 2,810*l.* more than in the previous year. It will be observed from the detail given below that increases, other than nominal, appear under heads 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 15, 17, 19, and 20; the causes are as follows:—

(1.) Issue of stock for a new loan of 50,000*l.* for public works, and of 30,100*l.* for conversion of existing debentures.

(2.) Addition of Rev. R. F. Berkeley (128*l.*) and ex-Sergeant-major Harris (38*l.*) to pension list.

(4.) Importation of special type for the Blue Book, and additional book-binding.

(7.) Increase of Chief Justice's salary by 200*l.*

(9.) Increased prison population.

(10.) Creation of another medical district, and extension of the ticket system; also to abnormal expenditure on quarantine measures and sanitation, consequent on the spread of cholera in Europe and the United States.

(11.) Increased grants in aid of primary and secondary education, and of libraries in the out-districts.

(15.) Increased contribution to Imperial mail subsidy.

(17.) Establishment of a system of telephone exchanges.

(19.) Larger expenditure on upkeep of roads, consequent on heavy rainfall.

(20.) Execution of a larger number of public works.

6. Decreases appear under heads 5 and 14 on account of exceptional expenditure in 1891; under police, caused by alteration of excise system; and under 18, due to reduced contribution to salary of the Director of Public Works, who resided in St. Lucia during the year, and to the abolition of the Public Works Accountant and the road surveyors.

Head of Expenditure.	1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on account of public debt -	3,695	1,929	1,766	—
2. Pensions - - - -	907	739	168	—
3. The Governor and Legislature -	2,215	2,211	4	—
4. Colonial Secretary - - -	2,179	2,063	116	—
5. Treasury, &c. - - -	5,259	6,528	—	1,270
6. Audit Department - - -	419	444	—	25
7. Legal - - - -	4,657	4,595	62	—
8. Police - - - -	4,218	4,335	—	117
9. Prisons - - - -	1,266	1,191	75	—
10. Medical - - - -	7,246	6,708	538	—
11. Education - - - -	5,878	5,264	614	—
12. Ecclesiastical - - -	515	517	—	2
13. Charitable - - - -	498	492	6	—
14. Miscellaneous - - -	2,914	4,064	—	1,150
15. Post Office - - - -	3,200	2,337	863	—
16. Agricultural - - -	517	546	—	29
17. Telephone - - - -	639	—	639	—
18. Public Works Department -	1,341	2,249	—	908
19. Public Works, Recurrent - -	9,426	8,881	545	—
20. Public Works, Extraordinary -	2,272	1,357	915	—
Totals - -	59,260	56,450	6,311	3,501
	56,450	—	3,501	—
Increase in 1892 - -	2,810	—	2,810	—

Financial Position and Debt.

7. The available balance at the end of the year was 486*l.*, as shown in the accompanying statement of the Colonial assets and liabilities:—

Assets.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in Colonial Chest		333 0 0
On current account with Colonial Bank		2,948 0 0
Invested in South Australian 4 Per Cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value, 3,804*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*)		4,000 0 0
On deposit with London and Westminster Bank		2,464 0 0
Due from Crown Agents on current account		228 0 0
Advances representing either amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not brought to account :—		
Loans to Parochial Boards, from General Revenue	1,100 0 0	
Government of St. Lucia	1,147 0 0	
„ „ St. Vincent	701 0 0	
„ „ Trinidad and Tobago	24 0 0	
Distillery apparatus	1,514 0 0	
Materials, &c., Works Department	1,153 0 0	
Crown Agent's Advances Account	14,500 0 0	
Primary School Books	70 0 0	
Other advances	1,954 0 0	
		22,164 0 0
Arrears of Revenue due to the Colony :—		
Interest on Loans to Parochial Boards	189 0 0	
Parochial Boards (arrears of Byeway Contributions)	223 0 0	
		412 0 0
		£32,549 0 0

Liabilities.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits, as follows :—		
Savings Bank	6,864 0 0	
Immigration Fund	1,944 0 0	
Fire Insurance Fund	2,000 0 0	
Governor's Office Fund	31 0 0	
Suspense Account	337 0 0	
Post Office	276 0 0	
General Deposit Account	313 0 0	
St. Paul's Water Supply Account	368 0 0	
Sinking Fund, Public Works Loan (No. 1.)	2,156 0 0	
Public Works Loan Works Account	7,480 0 0	
Parochial Boards Loan Works Account	9,364 0 0	
		31,133 0 0
Debentures Conversion Fund		930 0 0
Surplus Assets		486 0 0
		£32,549 0 0

8. The public debt at the same date was 96,575*l.*, made up as follows:—

	£
Inscribed stock issued under Ordinance No. 5 of 1891 for public and parochial works -	50,000
Inscribed stock issued under that Ordinance to convert 28,000*l.* debentures - -	30,100
Four and a half per cent. debentures held in England, not yet converted - -	12,000
Five per cent. debentures held in St. Vincent -	4,000
Five per cent. debentures held in Grenada -	475
	£96,575

9. The average price obtained for the bulk of the new stock issued was 101*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* per cent., and the conversion of debentures was effected at the rate of 103*l.* against 100*l.* debentures. The stock bears interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, and at the close of 1892 stood on the London Stock Exchange list at 102–104. The probable capitalised saving to the Colony, resulting from the conversion, when completed, is estimated at 3,078*l.*

10. Of the total loan raised, 20,069*l.* is for parochial works, and the interest and sinking fund on this amount are, therefore, a charge on local rates, and refunded by the parochial boards to the general revenue, which is primarily responsible for their payment.

11. The Colony is also liable for the repayment in 1899 of a loan of 1,000*l.* raised in 1879 for the St. George's Waterworks, on the security of the general revenue; the Parochial Board is, of course, responsible for the amount.

Local Boards.

12. The Parochial Boards are entrusted with the general management and regulation of the towns; following is a statement of their finances for the year:—

Town.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Debt.
	£	£	£
St. George's - -	1,903	2,178	6,812
Gouyave - - -	939	1,125	2,943
Grenville - - -	739	739	1,418
Sauteurs - - -	384	408	1,250
Victoria - - -	283	271	1,462
Hillsborough - -	412	323	500
Total - -	4,660	5,044	14,385

13. The revenue and expenditure are taken from Returns furnished by the several wardens, and their accuracy cannot be guaranteed; the debt (except in the case of St. George's, where 1,169*l.* current liabilities are included) consists of loans from the Government for public works, the current liabilities, if any, not being known.

Public Works and Roads.

14. Twenty-one thousand three hundred and fourteen pounds was expended on public works and roads during the year, 9,616*l.* being from loan funds, and 11,698*l.* from general revenue, 6,894*l.* of the latter amount being for ordinary upkeep of roads.

15. The river at Belmont, St. Patrick's, was bridged; the reconstruction of the main road from St. George's to Grenville along the southern and eastern coast, and of the second-class bye-ways was proceeded with; and the main road to Gouyave from Grenville was completed with the exception of the bridge over the Chantilly River, which is now in hand. The reconstruction of the Mount Cenis main road in St. Mark's and the Noel's Hill main road in St. Andrews was commenced, and good progress made.

16. The new road system worked admirably throughout the year, and excellent work was done by the gentlemen who form the boards. The year was an exceptionally trying one for the roads, on account of the very heavy rainfall, and their condition, notwithstanding this, is a credit to all concerned.

17. The construction of telephone exchanges referred to in last year's report was continued during the year, and the scheme promises to be a complete success. Although the system was far from being complete at the end of the year, the revenue received was 639*l.*, which exactly balanced the expenditure for maintenance and for interest and sinking fund on the amount borrowed for construction. At the date of this report there are six exchanges in operation, with 149 instruments in connexion, and the work of construction is still in progress.

18. One thousand seven hundred and forty-four pounds was spent on the repairs, &c. of public buildings; the new library in St. George's was finished and furnished; the new public buildings at Gouyave were almost completed, and the work of reconstructing the lunatic asylum was proceeded with; excellent stables and servants' rooms were provided at Government House, and a quarantine station was erected.

Legislation.

19. Thirteen Ordinances were enacted during the year, the most important being :—

No. 1, abolishing the police reward fund, and making the payment of police rewards and pensions a charge on general revenue, to which the balance of the fund was transferred.

No. 2, providing for surveys of disputed boundaries, without litigation, under the direction of the Works Department:

No. 3, amending and consolidating the law relating to the recovery of petty debts.

No. 5, giving the Government a monopoly in the erection of telephones in the Colony, and conferring the necessary powers to regulate and control the telephone service.

No. 10, amending the medical laws by a better definition of "labourers" and "paupers," and by providing for deferred payment of medical officers' fees for attendance on labourers in certain cases.

Councils.

20. Mr. E. P. Brooks, the new Treasurer, took his seat *ex officio* at both Councils in July, and during the absence of the Colonial Secretary on leave his seat was filled by the Honourable C. C. Knollys and Colonel Sandwith, who acted for him. Other temporary vacancies on the official side were filled by Messrs. J. F. L. Payne and C. F. Anton, and among the unofficials by Messrs. John R. Bertrand, W. D. Martin, R. D. Hopkin, and D. S. DeFreitas.

21. The term for which the unofficial members of the Council were appointed expired on the 31st December, and the same members were reappointed by Her Majesty the Queen.

Establishments.

22. During the Governor's official visits to the other Colonies of his government, in the first half of the year the government was administered by Mr. H. R. Pipon Schooles, the Attorney-General, by virtue of a special commission, which determined upon Mr. E. Drayton's appointment as Colonial Secretary, in June. In the latter half of the year the administration was conducted, during the Governor's absence on duty and on leave, by the following officers :—

Honourable E. Drayton, Colonial Secretary.
„ E. P. Brooks, Colonial Treasurer.
His Honour V. S. Gouldsbury, Administrator-in-Chief.
Honourable C. C. Knollys, Colonial Secretary of Barbados.
Colonel J. H. Sandwith, R.M.L.I.

23. Mr. L. R. Fyfe, the Colonial Secretary, died in May, much regretted, and Mr. Edward Drayton, the Treasurer, who had acted for him since October, 1890, was appointed to succeed him in June, Mr. E. P. Brooks, the late Colonial Secretary of the Falkland Islands, being appointed Treasurer in July. Mr. Drayton was compelled to take three months' leave in September—December, on account of ill-health, and his place was filled by Mr. Brooks, Mr. Knollys, and Colonel Sandwith, successively.

During the absence of the Attorney-General, on leave, Mr. J. F. L. Payne, Police Magistrate of the Southern District, acted for him.

Pensions.

24. The list was increased by the following additions :—

	£
Rev. R. F. Berkeley, late Anglican Rector of St. John's - - - - -	128
W. Harris, late Sergeant-major of Police -	38
	£166

The total of the pension list at 31st December, 1892, was 937*l.*

Vital Statistics.

25. The estimated population at the end of the year was 55,333, an increase of 2,124 since the census of 1891, and of 1,271 during the year. The birth-rate was 45·08 and the death-rate 21·83 per thousand.

26. Of the total number of deaths, 1,194, 16 per cent. were caused by zymotic fevers, 17 per cent. by diseases of the organs of respiration, and 13 per cent. by diseases of the organs of digestion. It is satisfactory to note that, notwithstanding the large increase of population in that period, the percentage of infant mortality among the deaths for the last 10 years has decreased from 31·44 in 1883 to 24·70 in 1892. This result is mainly attributable to the extension of medical relief, and the facilities afforded under the ticket system for obtaining medicine, the good work of which was crowned in the year under review by the enactment of an Ordinance which, *inter alia*, provides free medicines, as well as medical aid for labourers' children under 10 years of age.

Education.

27. An abstract of the statistics of primary education for the years 1891 and 1892 is given here.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars.				Income.			Expenditure.
		On Roll.		Total on Roll.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
		Boys.	Girls.						
						£	£		£
Government -	9	877	633	1,510	792	109	1,248	—	1,357
Assisted :—									
Anglican - -	7	750	513	1,263	689	122	846	—	968
Roman Catholic	10	1,187	1,155	2,342	1,111	149	1,270	—	1,419
Wesleyan -	5	510	448	958	547	82	679	—	761
Presbyterian -	1	98	76	174	109	9	159	—	168
Totals for 1892-	32	3,422	2,825	6,247	3,248	471	4,202	—	4,673
„ „ 1891-	32	3,368	2,787	6,155	3,246	568	4,132	—	4,701
Increase in 1892 -	—	54	38	92	2	—	70	—	—
Decrease „ -	—	—	—	—	—	97	—	—	28

28. It will be observed that the Colony spends about one-thirteenth of its revenue on primary education, and that the assisted schools are, in reality, supported by the State.

29. On secondary education 583*l.* was spent, 405*l.* of which was in aid of the Grammar School for Boys, and the balance divided between the Girls' High School and the Roman Catholic School for Girls, which received subsidies for the first time in 1892. The total expenditure of the Boys' Grammar School is returned as 574*l.*, so that three-quarters of its cost is provided by the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

30. As will be seen from the following table, the year 1892 was remarkable for the falling off in the imports, which exhibit a decrease of more than 18,000*l.* as compared with the previous year, and of nearly 10,000*l.* as compared with the average of the five years :—

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1888 -	82,597	52,522	27,318	162,437	202,684	9,182	17,397	229,263
1889 -	87,762	45,733	40,586	174,081	172,912	7,515	15,168	195,595
1890 -	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
1891 -	97,895	31,512	47,523	176,930	218,600	8,672	9,371	236,643
1892 -	79,015	34,549	45,138	158,702	241,112	9,794	13,775	264,681
Average -	88,105	40,320	40,180	168,605	215,306	8,809	14,382	238,497

31. Many causes contributed to this result. There was an exceptional rainfall, which retarded the cocoa-crop and produced a consequent "tightness" of money locally; there was less expenditure from loan funds on road work, so that the labourers, instead of relying on imported food supplies, devoted more time to the cultivation of provisions; and lastly, less capital was advanced to the peasant proprietors than in former years.

32. The trade with the United States of America continues to develop under the stimulus of the direct steamer service with New York subsidised by the Colony, which brings the island within seven days' distance of that centre of commerce. The imports thence amounted to 44,241*l.* and the exports to 9,785*l.* in 1892; in 1885 the corresponding figures were 17,325*l.* and 401*l.*

33. The value of the total exports for the year was 264,681*l.*, being 28,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and 26,000*l.* more than the average of the last five years.

As will be seen from the following statement of the value of the chief exports for the last five years, 84 per cent. of the total was cocoa; spices (chiefly nutmegs) and cotton being next in importance. The sudden increase in coffee is worthy of notice; it is due to increased cultivation consequent on the efforts of the authorities at Kew Gardens and of the Government to resusctate this product in Grenada, the failing of the crops in eastern countries offering the strongest incentive to exertion in this direction in the West Indies. As a result, the export of this article in the next few years should be considerable.

Year.	Cocoa.	Coffee.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fruit.	Firewood.	Ground Nuts.	Hides.	Live Stock.	Logwood.	Manure.	Peas.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1888 -	199,902	19	7,632	1,413	167	1,098	382	547	3,230	147	766	1,487	580	9,429	697	200
1889 -	166,178	12	6,714	1,182	151	842	260	641	3,312	273	938	431	451	10,220	2,225	280
1890 -	228,889	19	7,973	1,503	426	1,231	252	302	3,116	1,460	614	850	597	15,955	642	300
1891 -	200,267	16	8,194	1,783	600	1,096	279	434	2,696	708	171	998	560	12,598	1,905	714
1892 -	226,107	404	8,740	1,719	496	1,143	402	289	2,783	639	534	1,377	658	15,650	106	840

Shipping.

34. The number and tonnage of the vessels entered and cleared during the year is shown below :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	149	189,587	84	116,540
Sailing Vessels - -	343	9,565	333	9,560
Totals - -	492	199,152	427	126,100
Totals for 1892 -	512	258,790	500	256,306

Prisons.

35. A comparative statement of the prison statistics for the last five years is appended :—

Year.	Number of Persons committed.				No. of persons committed who have been previously convicted.	Percentage of Committals of Persons previously convicted.	Daily Average in Prison.	Admissions into Hospital.
	For Debt.	For safe Custody.	For penal Imprisonment.	Totals.				
1888 -	3	47	153	203	56	36·60	55·75	15
1889 -	3	53	244	300	89	36·48	64·22	18
1890 -	2	44	196	242	74	38·27	59·86	25
1891 -	6	47	189	242	75	39·68	73·13	19
1892 -	8	56	240	304	81	33·75	76·30	27

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Daily average on Sick List.	Deaths, excluding Executions.	Cost of Prisons.	Value of Work done by Prisoners.	Cost of a Prisoner.		
					Annual.	Daily.	For Diet, per Day.
			£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.
1888 -	2·98	1	1,328	1,256	23 14 3	0 1 3¼	3¼
1889 -	3·51	2	1,231	1,303	19 4 8	0 1 0¾	2¼
1890 -	2·56	1	1,160	1,304	19 6 7	0 1 1	2¼
1891 -	3·02	—	1,281	1,593	17 11 0	0 0 11½	3
1892 -	5·33	3	1,358	1,611	17 17 3	0 0 11½	3¼

36. The following analysis of the value of the work done by prisoners is interesting as showing how the system of industrial labour has thriven since its introduction in 1885. At the commencement of that year, about 90 per cent. of the prisoners' work was beyond the walls, and unremunerative; in 1892 only 20 per cent. is beyond the prisons, and they are practically self-supporting.

Work within Prison.

	£	£
Cooking and baking	836	
Tailoring and sewing	141	
Stone-breaking	114	
Preparing chocolate	98	
Sweeping and cleaning	33	
Washing	23	
Carpentry	16	
Shoemaking	8	
Making brooms, &c.	2	
Masonry	1	
	—	1,272

Work beyond Prison.

	£	£
Repairing roads	143	
Cutting grass and wood	79	
Botanic Gardens	71	
Cultivating vegetables	19	
Collecting stone and dry earth	16	
Clearing Government lands	11	
	—	339
		£1,611

Criminal Statistics.

37. The following table compares the figures relating to crime in 1892 with the average of the last four years:—

	1892.	Average of the last four years.	Increase.	Decrease.
The number of offences reported to the police -	720	769	—	49
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates -	2,472	2,107	365	—
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person - -	312	324	—	12
2. For prædial larceny - - -	39	31	8	—
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny - - - -	211	192	19	—
4. For other offences - - - -	673	486	187	—
The number of convictions in the superior courts :—				
1. For offences against the person -	3	6	—	3
2. For prædial larceny - - -	1	2	—	1
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny - - -	23	16	7	—
4. For other offences - - -	4	4	—	—
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In inferior courts - - - -	356	382	—	26
2. In the superior courts - - -	8	17	—	9

38. It should be noted that the figures for "Persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates" are, for the first time, correctly computed; for purposes of comparison, those relating to the previous years have been recalculated accordingly.

Agriculture and Meteorology.

39. The chief meteorological feature of the year was the heavy rainfall, 105·89 inches being recorded, or 49·20 inches more than in the previous year. Rain fell on 280 days during the year. The maximum temperature was 93 degrees, and the minimum 67 degrees.

40. It is extremely satisfactory to note that the botanical station has at last earned the right to be included as one of the factors in the development of the Colony and its products. Since it was started, in 1886, it has had many difficulties to contend with, but the unvarying sympathy and assistance it has received from the authorities at Kew Gardens, backed locally by the interest taken in it by his Excellency the Governor, and, in the last two years, by the untiring energy of the present curator, have overcome all obstacles, and not only are the gardens a credit to the Colony, but there is an ever increasing interest being taken by the agricultural community in the institution and its aims.

41. At the date of this Report Mr. G. W. Smith, the curator, in addition to his other efforts, is engaged in giving a series of popular lectures in the several districts with the object of instructing the peasant proprietors in practical agriculture and the use of manures. The lectures are well attended and the keenest interest displayed.

Savings Bank.

42. The following is a statement of the transactions of the savings bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1888 - -	277	4,804	4,319	5,632
1889 - -	583	4,709	4,308	6,295
1890 - -	723	5,441	4,882	6,853
1891 - -	637	6,112	5,356	7,610
1892 - -	904	5,994	6,672	6,886

43. It will be noticed that although in 1892 there was a considerable increase in the number of depositors, the amount deposited decreased, while the withdrawals increased, and the balance at the end of the year was consequently reduced. This was caused by the abolition of the police reward fund, to which reference has already been made, which resulted in a withdrawal of 895*l.* from the St. George's Bank and affected the deposits therein during the year. That the regular progress of the bank was not disturbed is shown by the subjoined return of the number of depositors and the balances to their credit in the branch banks since their establishment in 1889:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Balances to Credit.
		£
1889 - - - - -	81	292
1890 - - - - -	136	814
1891 - - - -	175	1,086
1892 - - - - -	196	1,483

Hospitals and Asylums.

44. There is nothing in the hospital statistics for the year requiring special notice. A private ward for paying patients of the better class was opened, and bids fair to be a success, two or three cases having been treated with satisfactory results. The Colony Hospital buildings need extensive repairs, which it is hoped may soon receive attention.

45. The alterations at the Lunatic Asylum were proceeded with, but even at the date of this report they are not finished; when complete, the buildings will be commodious and capable of affording proper treatment for the lunatics of the Windward Islands.

46. The St. Andrew's Hospital was thoroughly repaired during the year, and great improvements effected in its administration under the care of Dr. E. F. Hatton, who was appointed to it on the re-division of the medical districts of the Colony.

General.

47. As will be seen from this Report, the Colony continues to be prosperous and to advance, notwithstanding the existence of obstacles in the year under review. At the present date an excellent crop of cocoa is being reaped, and the good prices which are being obtained for it both in London and New York promise amply to repay the planters for the delay enforced by the exceptional meteorological conditions of 1892.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON,
Grenada, May 31, 1893. Colonial Secretary

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 55.

BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 25.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.-6.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
19	British Honduras	1890
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 55.

BRITISH GUIANA.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 25.]

VISCOUNT GORMANSTON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Georgetown, Demerara,
August 10, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two copies of the Blue Book for the year 1891, together with a report thereon by the Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

2. This report, which is very complete and comprehensive, and which reflects great credit upon Mr. Douglas Young, deals so fully with the chief features that it seems unnecessary for me to add anything in transmitting it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GORMANSTON.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1891.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.—The total revenue of the Colony, derived from the following sources during the Financial Year ending the 31st March 1891, amounted to 560,201*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* which is an increase of 37,434*l.* 10*s.* 9½*d.* on the total revenue for the previous 12 months.

I 73510. Wt. 10230.

The revenue derived from taxation amounts to 1*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* per head of the population; while the revenue as a whole is at the rate of 2*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* per head.

—	1889-1890.	1890-1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	£
General import duties	248,131 7 8½	254,847 14 9	6,716	—
Wines and spirit duties	36,120 2 5½	44,630 2 5	8,509	—
Beacon and tonnage duties	7,120 19 2	6,864 1 3	—	256
Rum duties	58,560 11 5½	62,201 7 7	3,640	—
Excise duty on bitters	—	6 9 9	6	—
Retail spirit licences	81,160 12 6	81,294 4 1½	133	—
Woodcutting licences	1,479 3 6	722 2 10½	—	757
Other licences	16,961 10 10½	25,112 2 7½	8,150	—
Establishments under Government	15,903 18 4	18,831 13 7½	2,927	—
Taxes fixed by Law	2,487 0 5½	1,969 10 3	—	517
Fees of office	8,832 3 11½	8,707 8 3½	—	124
Fines and seizures	3,954 17 8	4,698 18 2	744	—
Miscellaneous receipts	7,078 14 3	6,675 19 9½	—	402
Gold industry	6,062 8 1½	12,536 18 5	6,474	—
Stamps, postal and revenue	12,464 2 3	15,204 11 11½	2,740	—
Interest	16,449 9 5	15,898 7 0½	—	551
Total revenue £	522,767 2 1½	560,201 12 11	34,434 net increase.	

The rum duties and the retail spirit shop licences contribute a fourth of the general revenue of the Colony. The large sum raised on retail spirit shop licences is to be accounted for by the peculiar system which prevails in British Guiana of collecting the excise duty on rum. This system is to collect from the retail seller a certain proportion of the excise duty in the shape of licence duty, whilst the other proportion is collected from him as excise duty when the spirit is taken out of bond.

The licences, which are annual, are divided into 17 classes, varying from 1,460*l.* for a 1st class licence, which permits the holder thereof to sell 8,000 gallons, down to 52*l.* 10*s.* for a 17th class licence, which permits the sale of 285 gallons. Rum sold under these licences pays an excise duty at a reduced rate of 3*s.* 6½*d.* a gallon, until the maximum quantity of rum allowed, according to the class of licence has been sold, when, in the event of any additional sales, the excise duty is increased to 4*s.* 2*d.* a gallon.

The issue of licences is arranged on an estimate of the probable sale of rum in the district for which they are granted. In the case of the renewal of licences the actual sales for the past 12 months form a basis, and in the case of new licences the probable consumption per head of the inhabitants of the district is the only guide.

There were 240 retail spirit shop licences on the 31st December 1891, and during the year 337,548 gallons of rum were taken out of bond by the retail spirit dealers, at the reduced rate of excise duty, while 599 gallons of rum, paying the ordinary excise duty of 8*s.* 4*d.* a gallon, were taken from bond.

The apparently large increase of 8,150*l.* in the revenue derived from "Other Licences," is due partly to an increase in the number of licences issued during the year, but for the most part to the fact that in 1889–90 only 9 months' receipts from licences were brought to account, the year for the issue of licences having been changed to run from April instead of from July.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure, irrespective of loans, amounted to 531,099*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with 508,108*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* during 1889–90, leaving a credit balance of 29,102*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* on the year's transactions. Of the expenditure the following is a summary :—

—	1889-90.	1890-91.	Increase.	Decrease.
Departments—	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£	£
Civil	23,012 13 1	22,881 15 5	—	130
Miscellaneous	5,999 16 8	7,255 18 8	1,256	—
Revenue	28,194 8 7½	31,158 8 3½	2,965	—
Botanical gardens	3,417 19 3½	3,413 18 6	—	4
Ecclesiastical	21,662 11 11	21,870 14 11	—	—
Education	35,107 2 0½	35,740 4 4½	633	—
Immigration ⅓ cost	30,878 4 10	*35,806 6 2½	4,358	—
Judicial	34,120 5 2	32,880 10 3	—	1,329
Medical, half cost, and hospitals	50,301 16 11½	52,595 18 9½	2,294	—
Military	2,751 1 10½	2,283 8 0½	—	467
Miscellaneous	29,189 11 0½	28,010 12 1½	—	1,178
Pensions	9,489 14 11	9,925 9 2	435	—
Poor	16,444 3 1½	17,488 8 8½	1,044	—
Police	47,131 16 3	51,141 11 8	4,009	—
Post Office	20,834 4 0½	22,122 8 10	1,288	—
Prisons	21,563 6 3½	21,338 3 8	—	225
Public Debt	44,557 6 4	45,146 10 11½	—	—
„ Works and Staff	35,001 3 8	36,388 4 11	589	—
Roads under commissaries	17,129 13 0	20,448 6 10	3,318	—
Royal Mail Steam Packet Company	7,480 0 0	7,480 0 0	—	—
Steamer communication, local	20,687 10 1	20,447 18 4	—	239
Telegraph, West India and Panama	3,153 18 1½	5,277 14 4	2,123	—
Total expenditure £	508,108 7 4	531,099 9 10	22,991 net increase.	

* Of this amount, 569*l.* 10*s.* 8½*d.* was paid by the Colony for immigration from Barbadoes the remainder, 35,236*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, s the Colony's third share towards immigration from India.

The following table gives the revenue and expenditure, irrespective of loans, for ten completed years, dating from the 1st January, 1881 :—

—	Revenue.	A head of the population.	Expenditure.	A head of the population.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881 - - - - -	403,245 9 7½	1 11 11	421,087 2 0½	1 13 4
1882 - - - - -	458,694 7 7	—	428,971 9 4½	—
1883 - - - - -	478,216 8 1	—	459,207 9 4	—
1884 - - - - -	460,932 6 6	—	449,785 14 7	—
1885 - - - - -	434,813 8 5½	—	463,942 18 3	—
1886 - - - - -	446,025 16 3½	1 12 6	476,964 0 8½	1 14 5
1887 - - - - -	463,870 15 4½	—	489,214 15 8½	—
1888 - - - - -	461,941 7 5½	—	490,566 5 5	—
1889 * To 31st March - -	118,821 11 6½	—	114,969 3 4½	—
1889-90 - - - -	522,767 2 1½	—	508,108 7 4	—
1890-91 - - - -	560,201 12 11	2 0 3	531,099 9 10	1 18 1

* The year was here changed from the Calendar to a Financial one, beginning on the 1st April and ending on the 31st March in each year.

The financial position of the Colony as shown by the balance sheet of the books of the Colony on the 31st March 1891, was as follows :—

DEBIT.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in hand in Colony and elsewhere -	19,092 3 5	
„ „ hand of Crown Agents - -	43,029 7 0	
		62,121 10 5
Loans on which interest is received :—		
Lamaha committee - - -	12,174 3 10½	
Mayor and town council, Georgetown -	97,708 6 8	
Plantation *Bel Air* - - -	16,800 0 0	
East Coast Demerary Water Supply Commissioners - - - -	67,873 3 3	
Bœrasirie Water Supply Commissioners -	23,934 11 6	
Miscellaneous - - - -	8,924 15 3½	
		227,415 0 7
Public works loans - - - -	—	339,812 10 2
Advances and amounts recoverable - -	—	17,028 18 2
Loans to villages - - - -	—	17,177 14 2½
Fee Fund Provost Marshal's Office - -	—	580 5 10
Loans guaranteed† - - - -	4,035 13 6½	
Interest - - - - -	527 9 7½	
		4,563 3 2
Investments :—		
Sinking fund - - - -	53,857 19 3	
Reserve fund, Ordinance No. 4 of 1886 -	35,353 14 6½	
		89,211 13 9½
Floating balance - - - -	—	96,715 10 2½
		854,626 6 6½

† The difference between Debit and Credit is made up of amount of Bonds not presented for payment.

CREDIT.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Deposits on which Colony pays interest :—		
Moneys of Widows and Orphans Fund in hand	59,476 1 3	
Savings banks	59,784 4 0½	
Administrator General's investment account	15,125 0 0	
Miscellaneous	4,465 19 11½	
		138,851 5 3
Deposits on which Colony does not pay interest	—	18,630 6 0½
Consolidated Immigration Loan Commissioners	—	18,769 9 3½
Unclaimed moneys	—	8,147 6 4½
Public debt :—		
Bonds issued under Ordinance 9 of 1869	14,700 0 0	
" " " 6 of 1879	142,000 0 0	
" " " 4 of 1886	256,000 0 0	
" " " 14 of 1887	168,600 0 0	
		575,300 0 0
Guaranteed Loans*	—	47,300 2 4½
Fee Fund Administrator General and Registrar's Office	—	1,168 4 4½
Sinking Fund :—		
Ordinance 9 of 1869	13,046 5 0	
Ordinance 6 of 1879	27,962 10 0	
Ordinance 14 of 1887	7,744 0 0	
		48,752 15 0
Interest on Sinking Fund invested with Colony	—	5,105 4 3
Reserve Fund—Ordinance 4 of 1886	—	35,171 13 7
		854,626 6 6½

The financial year started on the 1st April 1890, with a floating debit balance of 120,909*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* which by an excess of revenue over expenditure was reduced to 96,715*l.* 10*s.* 2½*d.* on the 31st March 1891.

LOCAL REVENUES.

The revenue for the year 1891, of the municipality of the city of Georgetown, amounted to 49,054*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, whilst the expenditure was 53,449*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*, leaving a deficit of 4,394*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* The revenue and expenditure in 1890 were 48,771*l.* 8*s.* 11½*d.* and 51,194*l.* 17*s.* 1½*d.* respectively. In the deficit of 4,394*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* is included the deficit in 1890, amounting to 2,423*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*, so that the actual deficit on the year's transaction was 1,969*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* The revenue derived from taxes at 2 per cent. on house property amounted to 27,864*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, the annual grant from the Government was 6,456*l.* 5*s.* 9½*d.*, markets and slaughter-house fees, 5,948*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, water supply rates, 3,233*l.* 9*s.* 0½*d.*, cemetery fees, 2,120*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* Of the expenditure, redemption of bonds was responsible for 5,727*l.* 14*s.* 9½*d.*, and interest on loans for 4,970*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*

* The difference between Debit and Credit is made up of amount of Bonds not presented for payment.

The revenue of the municipality of the town of New Amsterdam amounted to 7,110*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* and the expenditure to 7,132*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* (a deficit of 21*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*) compared with 8,075*l.* 4*s.* 7½*d.* and 8,059*l.* 1*s.* 8½*d.* respectively during 1890. Of the revenue 3,325*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* was derived from a 2½ per cent. tax on private property, the grant from the Government being 1,455*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* markets, fees, rent, etc., 1,027*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*

Villages.—There are 19 incorporated villages with a population of 27,051. The amount of local taxes and revenue collected from these incorporated villages, at a 2 per cent. rate of assessment on house and land property, was 3,897*l.* 7*s.* 3½*d.*, leaving 1,254*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, amount of taxes due on the 31st December, to be recovered during 1892. The annual grant to the villages from public funds was 2,083*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* which, with the amount of rates collected, made up the available sum of 5,980*l.* 13*s.* 9½*d.* for the year.

The expenditure amounted to 6,274*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, made up of 2,837*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* for drainage, 1,541*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* for roads, dams and bridges, 1,405*l.* 12*s.* 1½*d.* for salaries and contingencies, and 489*l.* 10*s.* 0½*d.* for other expenses.

The liabilities of the villages on account of loan due to the Government was 16,118*l.* 19*s.* 10½*d.* or 3*l.* 3*s* 4*d.* less than on the 31st December 1890.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The total public debt of the Colony on the 31st December, for sums borrowed for public works, for introduction of immigrants, for improvement of towns and for public purposes generally, amounted to 735,429*l.* 3*s.* 3½*d.* as compared with 770,346*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* on the 31st December, 1890. Of this debt the general revenue of the Colony was directly pledged to the extent of 570,300*l.* and indirectly to 165,129*l.* 3*s.* 3½*d.* Of this latter amount, 119,400*l.* was money borrowed on account of the proprietors of sugar estates for immigration purposes, 416*l.* 13*s.* 3½*d.* for the Mayor and Town Council, New Amsterdam, and 45,312*l.* 10*s.* for money borrowed by the Vlissengen Commissioners.

In respect to the debt for which the general revenue of the Colony is directly pledged, bonds to the extent of 35,000*l.*, were redeemed during the year. The amount provided on the 31st December 1891, for the redemption of this debt was 63,939*l.* 15*s.*, being full provision for the sinking funds, as required by law. The amount is duly invested.

With regard to the other class of debt, the one for immigration purposes was increased in May to 119,400*l.* by the issue of first bonds to the extent of 7,000*l.* The municipality of Georgetown cleared off the remainder, 4,035*l.* 13*s.* 6½*d.*, of its special debt. The municipality of the town of New Amsterdam reduced their special debt by 277*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, leaving 416*l.* 13*s.* 3½*d.* outstanding.

The public debt of the Colony for the past ten years has been :—

Year.	Revenue directly pledged.	Guaranteed.	Total public debt.	Total Public Debt per head of population.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1882 -	129,000	267,190 5 6½	396,190 5 6½	1 11 4
1883 -	105,300	206,458 12 2½	311,758 12 2½	—
1884 -	75,000	125,313 12 2	200,313 12 2	—
1885 -	162,000	185,329 6 9	347,329 6 9	—
1886 -	446,700	195,872 16 6½	642,572 16 6½	2 6 10
1887 -	446,700	185,795 9 8	632,495 9 8	—
1888 -	516,700	181,551 9 5½	698,251 9 5½	—
1889 -	560,300	177,099 2 6½	737,399 2 6½	—
1890 -	605,300	165,046 15 8	770,346 15 8	—
1891 -	570,300	165,129 3 3½	735,429 3 3½	2 12 10

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The Imperial Troops were withdrawn from the Colony at the beginning of May, 1891, to partially carry out the scheme of the Colonial Defence Committee, to centralize, at the Islands of Jamaica and St. Lucia, the British Troops quartered in the West Indies.

The expenditure on account of the local forces, militia and volunteers, amounted to 3,885*l.* 9*s.* 0½*d.*; as compared with 1,610*l.* in the year 1890; this expenditure will, however, be considerably more in the future, as the militia force will be under the command and direction of a paid staff.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure from general revenue during the year ended 31st March, 1892, on account of Public Works was 32,987*l.* 9*s.* 2½*d.* as compared with 32,649*l.*, the expenditure for the corresponding period of the previous year. The works were confined more or less to ordinary maintenance and repairs to Government buildings.

For the like period the expenditure against loan account was 35,615*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, the two principal works in progress being the Canals Polder 9,559*l.*, iron bridge across the Canje Creek, 12,983*l.*

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Court of Policy during the year 1891, with the exception of Nos. 2 and 3, which were passed by the Combined Court:—

No. 1.— To Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Colony.

The changes introduced by this enactment may be summed up to be, principally, the enlargement of the number of members of the Court of Policy, from the Governor and nine members (four official and five elected, unofficial), to the Governor and 15 members (seven official and eight elected). The direct election by the registered voters of the unofficial members in the place of nomination as formerly by the College of Electors. This college, elected by the people, consisting of seven members whose sole functions were to nominate members for the Court of Policy on the occurrence of vacancies, has been abolished. The executive and administrative functions of the former Court of Policy are transferred to and vested in the Governor and an Executive Council, legislation alone being the work of the new Court of Policy. The Governor may at any time prorogue or dissolve the Court of Policy; in any case the court shall be dissolved at the expiration of five years if not sooner dissolved, and a general election held within two months after every dissolution.

The functions of the Combined Court, which is formed by the amalgamation of the Court of Policy with six financial representatives who are elected by the people, remain the same, the raising of revenue and voting supplies.

The financial representatives hold their seats concurrently with the existence of the Court of Policy, vacating them only on its dissolution.

No. 2.— To continue in force for a further period the Tax Ordinance, 1890.

No. 3.— To continue in force for a further period the Customs Duties Ordinance, 1890.

These Ordinances 2 and 3 are passed annually by the Combined Court. In view of the early introduction of the constitution under the Ordinance above referred to, the Tax and the Customs Duties Ordinances, 1890, were continued in force up to the 31st March, 1892, with but few alterations, the principal change being an increase in the acreage tax, a tax on land of more than fifty acres under cane cultivation, and on which sugar is manufactured—from ten shillings and fivepence to twelve shillings and sixpence per acre.

No. 4.— Repealed by No. 10 of 1891.

No. 5.—To Incorporate the Society for the Protection of Children.

A measure that has already made itself felt among the heartless. With a large illegitimate birth-rate cruelty is ever rife, and it is to measures of this sort that recourse has to be taken to check cruelty, and bring about a kindly feeling for the young.

No. 6.— To Amend the Law relating to the Keeping and Auditing of the Public Accounts of the Colony and for other like purposes.

This Ordinance provides for the appointment of a Deputy Receiver-General in the place of the Colonial Book-keeper whose office is abolished, and transfers certain statutory duties, which formerly devolved on the Colonial Book-keeper in connexion with public loans, to the Colonial Receiver-General, and in connexion with loans for immigration purposes, to the Immigration Agent General.

No. 7.— Relating to the Legal Condition of Aliens and British Subjects.

This Ordinance facilitates the naturalization, for local purposes, of foreign subjects resident in the Colony, but does not withdraw from them their rights when within the Foreign State of which they were subjects previously to obtaining certificates of naturalization, unless they cease to be subjects of that State in pursuance of laws or treaty to that effect.

No. 8.— To Amend the Auctioneers Ordinance, 1888, with respect to sales of property at auction on account of the public service.

Provides that property belonging to the Government may be sold by auction by an officer of the department concerned.

No. 9.— To make provision with respect to the erection and Working of Factories for the Manufacture of Explosive or Inflammable Substances.

Prohibits erection within any town or within one quarter of a mile of the limits of the town of factories for the manufacture of any explosive or inflammable substance or thing.

No. 10.—To Provide for the Payment of an Annual Subsidy to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, during a certain period and on certain conditions.

Secures a subsidy of 4,500*l.* to the telegraph company for a period of ten years in view of a new cable being laid between Trinidad and Demerary. The old cable was one that could not be relied upon.

No. 11.—To preserve and continue to the persons who may be members of the College of Electors at the time of the abolition of the said college, the rights, privileges, and immunities had and enjoyed by members of the said college.

No. 12.—To Authorise a loan of $12,000 to the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown for the purchase of certain properties in the said city and to provide for the repayment of the said loan.

No. 13.—To Provide for the Appointment of Bailiffs in the Judicial Districts of the Colony and to regulate their status and duties.

The duties of bailiffs have heretofore been performed by the police and rural constabulary, but it was found desirable to confine the duties to rural constables appointed for the purpose and to give them legal status as such.

No. 14.—To Provide for the Appointment of a Deputy Harbour Master for the Harbour of Georgetown.

No. 15.—To Constitute a Mayor and Town Council for the Town of New Amsterdam and to make provision in other respects for the government of the said town.

Establishes a mayor and town council, consisting of seven members, in place of the board of superintendence of the town of New Amsterdam which was created in May 1844.

The qualification for a member of the council is household property in the town of New Amsterdam, rated at 208*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* or more.

No. 16.—To Authorise a Loan of $20,000 to the East Berbice Sea Defence Commissioners for certain works to be executed by them and to provide for the repayment of the said loan.

No. 17.—To Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to the Police Force.

No. 18.—To make Provision for the Better Organization of the Rural Constabulary and for the regulation of the powers and duties of Rural Constables.

No. 19.—To Provide for the Establishment and Regulation of a Volunteer Militia Force.

On the withdrawal of the Imperial Troops from the Colony it was thought a fitting opportunity to place on a more substantial basis the Police Force, the Rural Constabulary, the Militia, and the Volunteer Force of the Colony, and with this object in view the three Ordinances 17, 18 and 19, which had for some time past been under consideration, were finally dealt with and passed into law.

For police purposes the Colony is divided into territorial divisions. Each division under the charge of a county inspector. The divisions are again subdivided into districts under the charge of inspectors of police, responsible to the county inspector who, in his turn, is responsible to the Inspector General.

The principal object of the Rural Constabulary, which is under the command of the Police, is in the time of peace to

act as an efficient auxiliary to the Police Force in the performance of their ordinary duties, and in the time of external aggression or of internal disturbance of at once assuming, to such an extent as may be found requisite, the ordinary duties of the police.

As regards the Volunteer Militia Ordinance it makes enlistment compulsory when sufficient number of men do not volunteer for service, and suspends during the Governor's pleasure the Volunteer Ordinance of 1878 and repeals the Georgetown Militia Ordinance, 1872. At the time of writing this report the Volunteer Militia Ordinance 1891 has been amended by an Ordinance of 1892, which makes the Force a Militia.

No. 20.—To Codify the Law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes.

No. 21.—To define certain terms and expressions when used in Ordinances and in Official Documents; to make provision with respect to the commencement and construction of Ordinances; and for other like purposes.

No. 22.—To Incorporate the British Guiana Building Society, Limited.

The society was established on the 9th of February 1885, and incorporated under the Friendly Societies Ordinance, 1883. This special Ordinance was passed to enable the society to enlarge the scope of their operations.

No. 23.—To Confirm a Provisional order made by the Governor and Court of Policy under the Electric Lighting Ordinance, 1890, relating to the City of Georgetown.

No. 24.—To make Provision for the more safe and convenient Navigation of the Rivers of the Colony.

This Ordinance, which authorises the framing of regulations has been brought about by the loss of life amongst those travelling to and from the gold fields of the Colony. Most if not all of the travelling to the gold fields is effected by means of the rivers of the Colony, the navigation of which, owing to the many rapids, is attended with danger.

No. 25.—To Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to Asiatic Immigrants.

No. 26.—To Amend in certain respects the British Guiana Constitution Ordinance 1891.

No. 27.—To Amend in certain respects the Naturalization Ordinance, 1891.

These Ordinances, 26 and 27, made a few temporary and verbal amendments in the enactments referred to.

No 28.—To postpone the coming into operation of the Spirits Ordinance, 1890.

Time was extended from 1st day of October, 1890 to the 1st day of April, 1892, for the Ordinance to come into operation; this was done to enable the alterations required to distilleries to be effected, and the necessary apparatus to be obtained.

No. 29.—To suspend the coming into operation of the Immigration Ordinance, 1891.

No. 30.—To Abolish the Inferior Courts of Criminal justice and to provide for the exercise of their jurisdiction and powers.

The Inferior Court of Criminal Justice was a tribunal between the magistrates courts and the supreme court of criminal justice to which court the present Ordinance transfers all the powers of the inferior court, its existence being no longer thought necessary.

No. 31.—To Repeal the Ordinances relating to the Sea Defences of the West Coast of the County of Demerara.

No. 32.—To Repeal the Ordinances relating to the Sea Defence of the East Coast of the County of Demerara.

The Sea Defences on the West and East Coast of Demerary were respectively placed under the management and care of Commissioners, but as it was found desirable to cancel these powers, the present Ordinances No. 31, and No. 32., were passed, having the effect of reviving Ordinance No. 6 of 1883, which places the care of the Sea Defences in question under the Public Works Department.

No. 33—To Incorporate the Demerara Mutual Life Assurance Society, Limited.

No. 34—To Amend an Ordinance to provide for the Establishment and Regulation of a town at Bartica, in respect of the reservation of lots for public purposes.

No. 35.—To Amend the Prevention of Shipping Casualties Ordinance, 1880.

No. 36.—To Amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1887, entitled "An "Ordinance to authorise the Mayor and Town Council of the City "of Georgetown to purchase certain land in the vicinity of "Georgetown, and to lay out the same for building and other "purposes" in respect of the issue of bonds.

No. 37.—To Amend "The Promissory Oaths Ordinance of 1870."

This Ordinance directs the oaths to be taken by the members and by the clerk of the Executive Council.

No. 38.—To make Provision for the Appointment of Land surveyors and with respect to the survey of land.

The want of this Ordinance has been long felt, and it is to be hoped that the inconvenience experienced by individuals desiring private surveys will now be removed.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

Under the Constitution Ordinance, 1891, the property qualification for a county voter is, during six months previous to registration, (1) ownership of not less than 3 acres of land under cultivation, or of a house or house and land of a yearly rental or value of 20*l.*; or (2) occupation or tenancy secured for 3 years or more, of 6 acres of land under cultivation; or of a house or house and land of a yearly rental or value of 40*l.*; or (3) an annual income of 100*l.*, coupled with residence in the district or division for six months previous to registration; or (4) payment of yearly taxes of 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

The property qualification for a city or town voter is, during six months previous to registration, (1) ownership of a house or house and premises of the value of 104*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*; or (2) occupation or tenancy of a house or house and premises of the yearly rental or value of 25*l.*; or (3) annual income of 100*l.* coupled with residence in the district; or (4) payment of yearly taxes of 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

The political pulse has been slightly quickened by the introduction of the reformed constitution. At the end of 1889 there were 1,596 registered voters on the list, in 1890, 1,973; in 1891 2,046, but apathy is the pass-word, and the political circulation is still slow. In comparison with the population the number of registered voters would remain small even if it were quintupled.

COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLIES.

The Court of Policy sat on 31 days, one twelfth of the year, utilised for the most part in legislation, the importance of which may be seen on reference to the above lengthy list of measures passed.

The annual session of the Combined Court was opened on the 17th February, and adjourned to the 3rd March, when it sat for three days considering the estimates for 1891–92, and passing the Customs Duties and the Colonial Taxes Ordinances.

A special session of the Combined Court sat on the 29th June for the purpose of making provision for the reorganisation of the Police Force and of the Rural Constabulary, and for the establishment of an Auxiliary Military Force; this was rendered necessary by the withdrawal from the Colony in the beginning of May of Her Majesty's Imperial Troops, at the time consisting of a detachment of the First West India Regiment. Hitherto partial protection had been furnished by the Imperial Government at a

cost, taking the average of the past five years, of 6,936*l.* a year and at a mere nominal cost, annually (280*l.*), to the Colony; but on the withdrawal of the troops it became necessary to immediately take steps to strengthen the Police Force, which now became the main line of defence, not so much against external aggression as against internal disturbance. This was effected by partially reorganising and materially strengthening the force; the Rural Constabulary being at the same time placed on a proper footing as an auxiliary to the Police Force.

The Combined Court having provided additional funds for the Police Force of the Colony, which is a semi-military body, every man being armed, the force now consists of an Inspector-General, a Deputy Inspector-General, five County Inspectors, an Adjutant, a Pay and Quarter-Master, ten Inspectors, ninety Non-Commissioned Officers and six hundred and thirteen men. The roll of the Rural Constabulary is seven hundred and eighty-nine strong.

The defence force of the Colony was still further augmented by the establishment of an efficient Volunteer Militia in the place of the obsolete Militia under the Ordinance of 1870 and of the Volunteer Force which had held together since 1878. Provision was made for a paid Staff of Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers, seconded from the Regulars, in order that the Corps should be thoroughly well trained.

On the 15th September the Combined Court met again in special session to consider the question of the representation of the Colony at the World's Columbian Exposition, 1893, to be held in celebration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the Discovery of America by Columbus. The Court agreed that the Colony should be represented and provided the necessary funds, and preparations are now being made accordingly.

By its development, the north-west district, distant some 200 miles from the seat of government, laid claims to a more accessible and expeditious means of communication with Georgetown, the capital, than had hitherto existed by means of the long and tedious journeys through the internal water ways. These claims the Combined Court justly recognised at its special session on the 15th September, and provided funds for the establishment of a regular steamer sea-service, which is now carried on fortnightly to the great convenience of the gold miners and others who have occasion to use it.

In this district the output of gold increased from 624 ozs. for the first three months to 6,276 ozs. for the last three months of the year, which is significant of the ready advantage taken by those prospecting for gold of the speedy communication with the auriferous district. The return for gold from this district for he three months ending 30th June, 1892, was 8,669 ozs.

On the 12th and 19th November the members of the Combined Court were again assembled in special session to consider certain trade relations between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of America, the object being to secure the admission of sugars from this colony into the United States duty free

This was rendered necessary in view of the reciprocity clause of what is commonly called the McKinley Tariff Act. The court submitted for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States, that inasmuch as the United States enjoyed complete most favoured-nation treatment in this Colony and the duties of customs levied were not imposed for protection purposes but exclusively in order to raise revenue by a method adapted to the circumstances of the Colony and to secure a just incidence of taxation, the duties placed upon the products of the United States by the Government of this Colony could not, in view of the general scope and bearing of the McKinley Tariff Act upon British colonial products, be deemed to be reciprocally unequal and unreasonable. If, however, notwithstanding these considerations the Government of the United States should deem that the provisions of the existing colonial tariff would justify it in suspending the provisions of the McKinley Tariff Act, and levying a duty upon sugars imported into the United States from this Colony, the court consented to a revision of the local customs tariff to take effect from the 1st April, 1892.

It only remains to be stated that the Government of the United States would not admit the sugars of British Guiana or those of the West India Islands without reciprocity, and that from 1st April last, duties to the estimated extent of 27,083*l.*, British Guiana's share of the amount of rebate duty demanded, after negotiations carried on between the United States and Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, have been given up on imports the greater bulk of which come from America.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Appointments, Promotions, etc.—Governor the Right Honourable Viscount Gormanston, K.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony on leave, from the 26th March to the 14th October, during which period the administration of the Government devolved on Lieutenant-Governor Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G., Mr. Francis Villiers, C.M.G., acting as Government Secretary.

Colonel the Honourable R. Stapleton Cotton, resigned the Inspector Generalship of Police, and was succeeded on the 8th of May by Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Bowater McInnis, C.M.G.

In the office of Colonial Civil Engineer, Mr. George Workman Dickson, B.A., on the 30th November, succeeded Mr. Lionel Payne Gallwey, who died on the 25th January. In the interim the duties were discharged by Mr. J. M. Moore, the Assistant Colonial Civil Engineer, until he died on the 27th June, when Mr. A. C. L. Campbell assumed charge until the arrival from England on special service of Baron Siccama.

Mr. Arthur C. L. Campbell was appointed Assistant Colonial Civil Engineer on the 25th August, in the place of Mr. J. M. Moore, but it was not long before the office again became vacant by his death, on the 31st January, 1892—a mortality as regards

the Staff of the Public Works Department, most painful to record.

Deaths.—Four public officers on the active list died during the year.

Lionel Payne Gallwey, 39 years of age, Colonial Civil Engineer, on the 25th January.

James Michael Moore, 34 years of age, Assistant Colonial Civil Engineer, on the 27th June.

J. H. Trotman, 64 years of age, Minister, St. Luke's parish, on the 2nd September.

A. H. Bartley, 43 years of age, Assistant Inspector of Schools, on the 29th December.

SECURITY

The annual inspection of securities was held on the 11th January, 1892, when it was ascertained that 154 public officers had given security for the due dischage of their duties, the amount of security varying from 50*l.* to 4,167*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

Of the 154 public officers 150 gave security in the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund, a local fund established by Ordinance for the benefit of those public officers who may be called upon by the Governor to give security in the discharge of their duties.

At the close of the fund's year, i.e., on the 30th September, 1891, a sum of 3,649*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* stood at the credit of the fund; of this amount 2,265*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* belonged to the personal accounts of officers who have held or are holding permanent appointments in the service and who have contributed or are contributing to the fund; and 1,380*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* placed to the reserve fund, which is formed by placing 10 per cent. of the annual contributions to the fund, after paying any claims the Colony may have against the fund for defalcations during the year; the remaining 90 per cent is placed to the credit of the personal accounts of the officers contributing.

PENSIONS.

At the close of the year there were 56 retired public officers on the list, receiving in the aggregate pensions amounting to 11,717*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* varying from 11*l.* 1*s.* to 664*l.*

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

There were 432 public officers contributing to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund on the 31st December, 1891. The fund is formed by the compulsory deduction of 4 per cent. from the annual salaries of 100*l.* and over of all public officers, by the optional contribution of 4 per cent. on the amount of pension by retired officers who

formerly belonged to the fund and by the payment of interest by the Colony on the fund's balances in the Treasury.

	£	s.	d.
During the year the revenue of the fund from abatements on salaries and pensions amounted to - - -	6,448	10	6
Whilst interest on balances in Treasury amounted to - - -	3,534	2	5
Making a total revenue of - -	£9,982	12	11
The expenditure of the fund amounted to —			
Pensions to widows and orphans -	9,490	9	3
Other expenses - - -	266	12	3
Making a total expenditure of - -	£9,757	1	6

leaving a balance of 225*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* on the year's transactions to be added to the capital of the fund, which stood on the 31st December, 1891, at 60,580*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*

Seven public officers contributing to the fund, 4 in active service and 3 on retired list, died during the year, leaving in each case a widow claimant on the fund, with pensions varying from 5*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* to 157*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* a year, the average being 89*l.* 17*s.* 9¾*d.*

The fresh calls on the fund increased the pension list by 820*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, whilst on the other hand it was decreased by 727*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* which fell in owing to the death of five claimants, the re-marriage of one widow, six minors attaining the age of majority, and the marriage of one minor, making a net increase of 93*l.* 10*s.* 3½*d.* on the pension list of the previous year.

The following table gives the revenue and expenditure of the fund for each of the past five years, and shows also the number of officers contributing to the fund:—

—	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue - - -	9,266	9,611	9,896	9,742	9,982
Expenditure - - -	8,610	176	9,259	9,717	9,757
Number of officers contributing to the fund :—					
Married - - -	232	242	248	274	283
Single - - -	136	150	143	147	149
Total - - -	368	392	391	421	432

POPULATION

By the census taken on the 5th April, 1891, the population of British Guiana was shewn to be 278,328 (males 151,759, females 126,569), to which may be added 10,000, the estimated number of aborigines scattered within the woods and forests of the Colony, beyond the reach of, and consequently not returned by, the census enumerators.

To deal with the actual figures returned, 278,328 for 1891 as compared with those, 252,186 (males 140,134, females 112,052), for 1881, it will be seen that the increase in the ten years amounts to no more than 26,142. But during this decade East Indian immigration, the very breath in the nostrils of the Colony, contributed no less than 39,721 to the population, repatriation on the other hand lessened this number by 16,748, during the same period, leaving an actual addition of 22,973 to the population by East Indian immigration.

For the sake of comparison, eliminate the East Indian population (87,988 in 1881 and 107,424 in 1891), from the census returns, and it will give the result that whilst the remaining population of British Guiana of 1881 was returned at 164,198, the population of 1891 is 170,904, shewing a net increase in the ten years of 6,706 only. But this is not to be wondered at when year by year the death returns overtop the birth returns, as shewn further on, so that the increase must be attributed to new arrivals and not to a natural local increase of the population.

In Georgetown the population increased from 47,175 (males 22,533, females 24,642) in 1881, to 53,176 (males 24,821, females 28,355) in 1891, which gives a city density of 53·17 to the acre. As regards the area of the Colony the population is at the rate of 2½ persons to the square mile.

The excess of deaths over births for the year 1890 amounted to 2,504, whilst for the year under report there was, from the same cause, a decrease of the population by 2,788. The deaths were 10,210, at the rate of 36 per thousand, and the births 7,422 or 26 per thousand of the population; but here again immigration steps in, and causes for the year an increase of 885 on the population on the 31st December, 1891, by an excess of 3,673 over emigration.

The nationality of the people may be seen by a glance at the following table, made up of:—

—	Total.	Males.	Females.
Europeans - -	4,558	2 728	1,830
Portuguese - -	12,166	6,042	6,124
East Indians - -	105,463	64,703	40,760
Chinese - -	3,714	2,583	1,131
Africans - -	3,433	2,112	1,321
Blacks - -	112,155	56,286	55,869
Aborigines - -	7,463	3,917	3,546
Mixed races - -	29,029	13,227	15,802
Race not stated - -	347	161	186
	278,328	151,7 59	126,569

Who were, at the time of taking the census, thus employed—

—	1881.	1891.
Clergy, professions and teachers - -	1,139	1,470
Public service - - - -	1,173	1,653
Merchants, shopkeepers and agents - -	2,302	2,599
Clerks and shop assistants - - -	1,668	2,664
Landed proprietors, agricultural and cattle farmers - - - -	2,175	3,060
Woodcutting and gold seeking - -	3,867	6,646
Mechanics and artisans - - -	10,086	14,146
Agricultural labourers - - -	108,225	105,444
Variously employed - - -	20,314	24,146
Boatmen and mariners - - -	1,991	1,836
Domestic servants - - -	14,563	19,934
Attending school - - -	38,529	38,067
No occupation and children - -	46,154	56,663
	252,186	278,328

BRITISH GUIANA. 1881.

Of the 105,444 agricultural labourers in 1891, 80,004 were East Indians.

Of the number, 56,663, of children and persons of no employment, 38,895 are children up to 15 years of age, and 5,106 are of 65 years and over. This leaves 12,662 between the ages of 15 and 65, which may be regarded as the limits of the ordinary life of labour.

IMMIGRATION.

On the 31st December, 1891, the East Indian population was estimated at 105,453, of these 72,816 (46,054 males and 26,762 females) were resident on estates, 16,710 being under indenture of service, 38,356 free, and 17,750 children. At the end of the year 1881, the East Indian population was esitmated at 75,161, of whom 22,752 were under indenture, whilst at the end of 1871. twenty years ago, there were only 50,661 East Indians in the Colony.

The total deaths amongst the East Indians resident on estates during 1891 numbered 2,379, or 32 per thousand; the death-rate amongst the indentured coolies was only 22 per thousand.

During the year under report 4,978 East Indian immigrants, being 404 more than the previous year, were introduced into the Colony at a cost for conveyance from India of 10*l.* 5*s.* per statute adult. Of those introduced, 2,925 were men, 1,332 women, and 721 children, in all equal to 4,280 statute adults. In addition to the foregoing, 17 men, 5 women, and 7 children were brought from India in the coolie emigrant vessels at their own expense.

The estimated total cost for the introduction of East Indian immigrants, including the depôt and recuiting expenses in India, is 17*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* a head.

East Indians numbering 2,151 souls, equal to 1,956 statute adults, returned to India, being only 31 more than the returning number of the previous year.

The remittances of the return emigrants amounted to 20,485*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, while they were bedecked with jewellery to the value of 7,477*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* The fact that so large an amount can be remitted, and that more than a third of their total savings is dedicated to personal adornment, may be taken as a happy criterion of the prosperous days the Hindu has spent whilst in British Guiana, for it must be remembered that when he lands here, his worldly possessions seldom extend beyond the yard or two of white calico, the attire of the male and female alike, which under the auspices of the Immigration Department he, on arrival, is heir to.

To turn to the figures furnished by the Saving Banks, it will be found that no less a sum than 110,723*l.* stands in the name of the Indian population in the Colony, which amounts to 16*l.* 2*s.* a head of the depositors, compared with 28*l.* 6*s.* a head of the Chinese depositors, 49*l.* 5*s.* a head of the Portuguese and 10*l.* 12*s.* a head of the Creoles and others. In 1889, the sum of 106,796*l.* stood at the credit of the East Indians, and in 1890, 117,831*l.*, thus

following the wave line of the market returns of the produce of the sugar estates.

But this must not be accepted as the total savings of the East Indians. Amongst them a system of saving or banking prevails which is known as "Box Money," by which they place their earnings in the hands of their selected countrymen who are generally head men on the sugar estates. It is impossible to arrive at an estimate of their savings thus hoarded.

Remittances by money orders through the Post Office to the value of 3,796*l.* were made by the East Indians during the year 1891 to their kinsfolk in India.

The revenue and expenditure on account of immigration from India during the twelve months ended 31st March, 1891, was:—

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Indenture fee from proprietors on account of allotment during year— cash instalments	4,400	8	3½
From Loan Commissioners, value of planters notes taken	43,510	4	2
Acreage Tax	39,235	17	0
From immigrants for duplicate certificates	84	6	0
Colony's contribution, ⅓ cost of East Indian Immigration	35,236	15	6
Difference in money exchange	67	7	7
	£122,534	18	6½

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Introduction of 5,248 East India souls in 9 ships	54,296	2	8½
Expenses of agency at Calcutta	3,137	6	4½
Charges in connexion with recruiting	12,425	14	7½
Charges connected with voyages	3,271	1	0½
Expenditure in England	1,672	3	2
Establishment in the Colony	8,674	13	5
Half cost medical service in Colony	14,305	16	0½
Back passages, 3 ships	22,300	12	10
Debit balance of fund on 31st March, 1890	18,688	13	3½
	£138,772	3	6

leaving a debit balance on the 31st March 1891, of £16,237 4*s.* 11½*d.*

The indenture fee was fixed at 11*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* a head by the Court of Policy, at a meeting held on the 28th January, 1890.

The following was the balance sheet on the 31st March, 1891. of the Immigration Loan Commissioners :—

DEBIT.	£	s.	d.	CREDIT.	£	s.	d.
Colonial Treasury - - -	18,769	9	3¼	Bondholders - - -	133,800	0	0
Banks - - - -	30,803	19	3½	Interest account - -	18,694	0	1½
Planters notes re- £ s. d.				Money orders - - -	76	3	2
coverable, 1891. 17,999 3 4				Remittances - - -	4,675	5	11
„ 1892. 25,641 9 2				Transfers - - -	744	1	9½
„ 1893. 19,738 10 10				Commutation moneys - -	3,658	14	2½
„ 1894. 15,674 3 4				Suspense account - -	93	17	1½
„ 1895. 11,010 0 0				Indian postage stamps - -	5	8	9
„ 1896. 3,216 0 0	93,283	10	10	Balances estates deceased indentured coolies - -	144	17	8
Immigation Fund account -	16,237	4	11½				
Agent in India - - -	2,798	14	8½				
	£161,892	19	1		£161,892	19	1

EDUCATION.

On the books of the Queen's College at the close of the year there were 105 students, an increase of 15 on the number for the year 1890. The course of instruction is the same as that of a public school or first grade grammar school in England. At the Cambridge Local Examination, held at Georgetown in December, 1891, 29 students presented themselves for examination, with the following results : of the seniors, 5 obtained honours and 1 satisfied the examiners ; of the juniors, 3 obtained honours and 14 satisfied the examiners.

The net expenditure to the taxpayers of the Colony may be taken at 21*l.* per scholar a year.

As regards the State-aided schools and primary education, there were on the 31st March, 1892, 181 schools receiving a grant-in-aid, an increase of 4 on the previous year. On the books of these schools there were 25,841 pupils with an average attendance of 14,387, as compared with 26,734 and 16,706 respectively for the year 1890-91. At the inspection there were 20,467 present, and of these 16,013 were examined, earning grants-in-aid to the extent of 18,116*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.* or 14*s.* 0*d.* a head of the numbers on the books.

To turn to the Census Tables it will be seen that 38,067 were returned as attending school, so that the difference (12,226)

between this number and those on the books of the state-aided schools may be taken to represent the number of children attending private schools.

It is interesting to refer now to the year 1881, when 38,529 children were returned as attending school; of these there were on the books of 183 grant-in-aid schools 21,486 pupils, with an average attendance of 11,398, whilst, at inspection, of the 16,086 present, 10,900 were examined, earning 21,238*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, which amounts to 19*s.* 9½*d.* a head of the number on the books of the schools.

SCHOOL FOR VAGRANT BOYS AND YOUTHFUL MALE OFFENDERS.

The Government Institution called the Onderneeming School is a quasi reformatory for youthful male offenders, detained there until they reach the age of 18 years. On the 31st March, 1892, there were 195 inmates, 30 more than at the same time the year previous. There were 62 admissions for the year, and 2 deaths occurred amongst the boys.

The inmates attend school daily; some are taught various trades whilst the labour of others is turned to account in the tillage of the soil.

The total cost of the Institution amounted to 2,872*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* during the year 1891–92, which gives an average cost per boy of 15*l.* 19*s.* 3½*d.* The farm consists of 56 acres under cultivation, and the produce sold to the public realized 391*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*, reducing the net cost to 13*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* a boy.

REFORMATORY FOR GIRLS.

This Institution is for the proper instruction and training of youthful female offenders who are too young to be committed to the common gaol for minor offences. On the 31st December there were 31 inmates, an increase of 10 on the previous year. The total cost was about 783*l.*, or 31*l.*, a head of the inmates.

IMPORTS.

The total value of the imports for each of the past ten calendar years is here given, distinguishing the imports from the United Kingdom from those from the United States, and showing also the

amount of Customs Duties received in each year, and the percentage of the Duties received on the total value of imports.

Year.	From United Kingdom.	United States.	Total value of Imports.	Duties received.	Percentage.
	£	£	£	£	£
1882 - - -	1,214,255	387,882	2,099,632	265,211	12·
1883 - - -	1,265,876	422,254	2,224,716	275,286	12·
1884 - - -	1,099,504	323,388	1,999,448	256,887	12·
1885 - - -	724,670	345,342	1,467,382	241,284	16·
1886 - - -	787,052	295,863	1,436,297	238,769	16·
1887 - - -	916,416	317,021	1,603,175	260,959	16·
1888 - - -	918,114	322,341	1,586,055	254,063	16·
1889 - - -	1,051,017	401,470	1,803,776	292,230	16·
1890 - - -	1,129,071	379,369	1,887,118	316,557	16·
1891 - - -	927,397	374,935	1,707,769	301,358	17·

The total value of the imports for the year 1891, which is at the rate of 6*l.* per head of the population, shows a decrease of 179,348*l.* 10*s.* 6½*d.* compared with the total value of the imports for the previous year, while the Customs Revenue fell short, by 15,199*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, of the revenue from the same source for the year 1890. In 1891 imports to the value of 1,380,940*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, paid Customs Duty, amounting to 301,358*l* 9*s.* 0*d.*, which is at the rate of 21·8 per cent on the value of taxed imports, while in 1890 imports to the value of 1,477,981*l.* 17*s.* 5½*d.* paid duty, amounting to 316,557*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* or 21·4 per cent.

Of the imports for 1891, the value of

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Goods paying specific duty was - -	897,425 3 1	giving in duty	223,770 12 0½
Do. do. ad val. at 7 per cent. -	62,850 0 3	„	4,399 10 0
Do. do. do. at 10 per cent. -	33,971 16 8	„	3,397 3 8
Do. do. do. at 8 per cent. -	343,114 11 10½	„	27,449 3 4
Wines and Spirits - - - -	43,579 0 9½	„	42,241 19 11½
Admitted free - - - -	304,257 6 4	„	—
Goods in bond - - - -	22,571 14 0	„	—
	£ 1,707,769 13 0		301,358 9 0

From the above it will be seen that of the total value of goods imported 304,257*l.*, or 17 per cent., were admitted duty free. Of this class, bullion, coin, amounted to 26,194*l.*, machinery for the manufacture of sugar, to 55,373*l.*, manures to 124,279*l.*, miscellaneous items not enumerated, to 43,999*l.*, onions to 6,158*l.*, and potatoes to 14,982*l.*

The principal articles of food imported during the years 1890 and 1891 were:—

—	1890.		1891.		Rate of Duty.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
		£		£	
Beef, pickled, brls. -	8,026	14,573	6,478	16,693	6*s.* 3*d.* per brl.
Bread, lb. - - -	355,670	5,297	491,654	5,740	2*s.* 1*d.* per 100 lbs.
Butter, lb. - -	638,194	22,860	541,553	20,100	1*d.* per lb.
Cheese, lb. - -	324,877	9,259	326,986	9,028	1*d.* per lb.
Corn, bush. - -	40,858	4,936	45,648	7,514	5*d.* per bushel.
Grain and pulse, bush. -	123,569	27,754	125,547	30,543	2½*d.* per bushel.
Ham, per lb. - -	341,471	8,097	273,203	6,635	1*d.* per lb.
Oat and corn meal, lb. -	1,247,974	4,168	2,165,644	8,872	1*s.* 0½*d.* per 100 lb.
Fish, dried, - -	71,428	68,090	69,064	64,657	2*s.* 1*d.* per cwt.
Flour, brls. - -	160,465	134,971	168,031	157,050	4*s.* 2*d.* per brl.
Lard, lbs. - - -	417,219	5,701	374,116	5,354	½*d.* per lb.
Milk in tin, lb. - -	85,885	1,780	155,619	3,038	1*d.* per lb.
Meats in tins, lb. - -	69,421	2,160	90,395	2,730	1*d.* per lb.
Onions, lbs. -	1,907,807	4,659	1,908,184	6,158	Free.
Potatoes, pkgs. - -	44,420	10,579	64,114	14,983	Free.
Pork, brls. - - -	19,771	43,307	14,854	35,462	6*s.* 3*d.* per brl.
Rice, lbs. - - -	38,016,260	130,661	47,648,564	192,354	1*s.* 0½*d.* per 100 lbs.

Of the above principal articles of food during 1891, imports from the United Kingdom were valued at 74,132*l.*, (including rice 46,055*l.*) and imports from the United States at 248,955*l.*

EXPORTS.

The following table speaks for itself, showing as it does the total exports of the colony in each year for the past ten years, distinguishing the value of the produce and manufacture of the Colony, from that of British, Foreign, and other colonial produce and manufacture.

—	Colony Manufacture.			Other than Colony Manufacture.			Total Exports.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1882 - -	3,017,888	3	4½	190,743	0	9	3,208,631	4	1½
1883 - -	3,002,672	14	4	169,339	1	1	3,172,011	15	2
1884 - -	2,164,845	5	2	157,187	3	5	2,322,032	8	7
1885 - -	1,677,531	5	2½	123,291	13	8	1,800,822	18	10½
1886 - -	1,731,481	7	2	111,104	2	7	1,842,585	9	9
1887 - -	2,063,487	1	3½	127,105	3	4	2,190,592	6	7½
1888 - -	1,876,720	15	6½	148,012	4	7½	2,024,733	0	2
1889 - -	2,310,141	7	0½	161,058	15	5½	2,471,199	16	1
1890 - -	2,023,301	8	1	138,490	8	1	2,161,791	16	2
1891 - -	2,395,713	1	6½	136,841	6	11½	2,532,554	8	6

The total value of the exports of the Colony during the past year, which is the largest since the year 1883, shows a gratifying increase of 370,763*l.* over the value of the exports for the previous year. This is to be accounted for by an increase of 225,525*l.* on the value of sugar exported, 46,130*l.* in the value of rum, and of 141,292*l.* on gold, deducting the decrease, 34,414*l.*, on the export of molasses.

The total value of the exports in 1891 per head of the population was 9*l.* compared with 7*l.* per head of the people in 1890.

The following is a comparative statement of the exports of the Colony for the years 1890 and 1891, showing the produce and manufacture of the Colony exported, during 1891, to the United Kingdom and the United States respectively.

Articles.	1890.	1891.	During 1891, produce and manufacture of the Colony.	
			To the United Kingdom.	To the United States.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	£
Balata, gum - -	10,078 11 10½	6,806 14 7	6,806	—
Bread - - -	455 15 4	556 5 10	—	—
Cattle - - -	703 6 8	440 12 6	—	—
Charcoal - - -	8,418 9 6	7,658 6 2½	—	—
Cocoa - - -	507 0 2	1,357 4 5	1,287	—
Cocoanuts - - -	519 19 6	512 8 3½	452	31
Coffee - - -	38 12 0	345 7 5	—	343
Corn - - -	10 0 0	80 8 4	—	—
Fibre - - -	209 18 11½	140 10 3½	31	—
Firewood - - -	122 13 7	156 5 0	—	—
Gold - - -	234,324 18 10	375,289 15 10	375,289	—
Gums, various - -	227 12 4½	153 12 5½	153	—
Hides - - -	3,216 15 5	2,090 18 2½	—	—
Isinglass - - -	225 3 5	369 0 10	368	—
Molasses - - -	78,783 12 6	44,269 7 1½	15	—
Plantains - - -	60 14 2	13 10 10	—	—
Rum - - -	220,835 8 5	266,965 13 9	246,696	12
Shingles - - -	1,121 1 2	3,856 12 8½	—	—
Sugar - - - -	1,437,217 12 6½	1,662,741 6 4½	521,437	1,107,593
Timber - - -	23,771 15 4	20,068 13 5	18,582	5
Miscellaneous - -	2,452 4 4	1,840 7 1½		
Total Colony produce -	2,023,301 6 1	2,395,713 1 6½		
Total foreign produce -	138,490 8 1	136,841 6 11½		
Total export - -	2,161,792 4 2	2,532,554 8 6		

The direction and the value of trade with the several countries may be seen from the following comparative table of imports and exports for the years 1890 and 1891:—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
United Kingdom - -	1,129,071	927,397 9 1½	958,873	1,220,518 3 8
United States - - -	379,369	374,935 6 10½	950,602	1,109,083 0 8
British North America -	62,370	72,105 13 3	42,095	44,825 2 10½
British West Indies - -	67,508	95,128 7 7	42,523	37,987 8 10
Bermuda - - -	1	1,109 5 10½	2,515	2,463 8 3
India - - - -	131,076	140,717 19 10½	113	223 4 2
Foreign colonies other than the United States - -	93,922	88,773 9 9½	164,252	116,759 0 3½
African possessions - -	—	—	8	—
Newfoundland - -	23,797	7,602 0 7½	805	694 19 9
British Honduras - -	—	—	1	—
Total - -	1,887,114	1,707,769 13 0	2,161,787	2,613,554 8 6

The United Kingdom, although the value of the imports therefrom was 200,000*l.* less last year than the year before, still remains the principal source from which the bulk of imports is obtained. In comparison, a large increase is observable in the value of imports from the British West Indies, which may be accounted for, principally, by increases on the value of the following articles:—fish 4,000*l.*, flour 4,500*l.*, grain 4,700*l.*, rice 9,000*l.*, and soap 1,000*l.*

Of the total value of exports the United Kingdom here again heads the list, closely followed, however, by the United States. The percentage of the total value of exports was—

——	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
To the United Kingdom -	71·	58·	52·	49·	53·	44·	48·
To the United States -	17·	30·	39·	38·	35·	43·	46·

But if the value of the gold exported be deducted from the total value of the exports, which it may very well be, as gold is not a marketable commodity in the same sense as is the manufactured produce of the Colony, we have the result that while 39 per cent. of the exports of the Colony manufacture go to the English market, 54 per cent. go to the market of the United States.

SHIPPING.

In considering the figures shown in the following table, with regard to the shipping, it must not be overlooked that British Guiana from her geographical position is out of the line of the run of vessels, and that almost every vessel entering here does so with cargo for the Colony and not merely with the object of seeking for cargo or with goods in transit;—

	Entered 1891.			Cleared 1891.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Steam vessels - - -	219	186,059	8,216	226	193,800	8,497
Sailing vessels - - -	539	132,265	4,674	546	134,242	4,739
Total steam and sailing -	758	318,324	12,890	772	328,042	13,236
Total steam and sailing in 1890 -	893	334,159	13,518	921	352,462	14,040
Showing a decrease in 1891 of -	135	15,835	628	149	24,420	804

The decrease is entirely due to the sailing vessels, 139 less having entered during 1891 than in 1890, making a difference of 25,622 in the tonnage. On the other hand the number of steam vessels entered increased by four with an increased tonnage of 9,787. The total tonnage of steamers averaged 854 tons a vessel.

AGRICULTURE.

The total area of the colony is estimated at 66,556,853 acres, while the total empoldered area of sugar plantations was 164,910 acres; of these 79,284 acres were in sugar-cane cultivation, 2,700 in plantains, and 82,926 acres uncultivated. Ten years ago the figures were very much the same as regards the acreage, 77,958 in cane cultivation, and 2,652 in plantains, while the uncultivated empoldered area, 62,570 areas, was 20,000 acres less.

The staple produce of the country, sugar, realized somewhat higher prices throughout the year; the average price for vacuum pan grocery sugar sold in the United Kingdom was 14*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* per ton compared with 12*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* during the previous year. A similar sugar for refining, sold in the United States, gave a return of 14*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* per ton, being 2*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* more per ton than in the year 1890.

There were 129,525 hhds. of sugar exported in 1891, being 12,321 more than in the previous year. The export of rum, which realised an average price of 12*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* per puncheon, increased from 20,495 puncheons in 1890 to 22,021 puncheons in 1891; while the export of molasses, 13,667 casks, fell short by 9,115 casks of the exports of the previous year.

The export of sugar, rum and molasses, ten years ago, formed 98 per cent. of the total exports of the Colony, last year they

formed 82 per cent. of the exports. The manufacture and exportation of these products have not decreased, but on the contrary have increased. The price realized on the sale of rum remains about the same, but the price of sugar has fallen in the period about 8*l.* a ton. This mainly accounts for the percentage value of the exports of these products being so very much affected, but the increased export of timber and gold also stands out prominently as a factor in this result.

MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

Under this head there is but one thing to refer to, and that is the result of the working at the gold fields. Up to the present, placer mining has been the only work, and this, month by month, draws increased expeditions to the gold fields. Ten years ago the output of gold amounted to 187*l.*, the following year the return was "Nil." In 1885, washings produced 3,249*l.*; in 1886—and this may be accepted as the first year when the gold industry in reality commenced—the return was 23,342*l.*; in 1887, 44,427*l.*; in 1888, 55,566*l.*; in 1889, 109,234*l.*; in 1890, 234,324*l.*, and in the year under report, 375,289*l.* Such strides as these cannot fail to have their attendant consequences. As everywhere else, embarkation in this industry is not without its speculative attractions, and in this respect an incident might here be narrated. A year or two ago a prospector returned to town from the gold fields having, as he stated, found a paying place. Not being in possession of sufficient ready money to work his find, he borrowed, or rather had advanced to him by two gentlemen in town, the sum of 50*l.*, on the understanding that they were each to receive a third share in the undertaking. Thus set up, the prospector returned to his placer, working, to commence with, only a "tom"; before long gold by the cwt. was the yield, and to-day the fortunate trio each enjoy an income of not less than 10,000*l.* a year. This is not the only rich find, some of the other placers giving a return of 1,000 ozs. a month.

Quartz mining in all probability will before long be started on an extensive scale in the Colony. Specimens of quartz of a friable nature, picked up on placer claims in the north-western district, have been tested by the Commissioner of Mines and found to give a result of 56 ozs. to the ton, whilst from another district of the Colony a sample of between 500 lbs. and 600 lbs. weight gave a return of 152 ozs. of gold to the ton. It is a common thing in working the placers to find auriferous quartz containing visible gold, but as yet the local gold seeker is content to work his placer, leaving quartz mining to the future.

There are about 7,000 labourers employed in the gold fields of the Colony, with an average wage of 2*s.* 8*d.* a man per working day.

GRANTS OF LAND.

During 1891, 11,875 acres of land were granted under licences of occupancy and 1,050 acres sold. Of the licences granted, 18

were for woodcutting purposes, lasting from two to four years, 21 for cultivation purposes, lasting for periods extending from ten to 21 years, or during Her Majesty's pleasure, and 19 licenses for the purposes of collecting ballata. The price of Crown land is four shillings and twopence an acre.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

There were 11,541 offences reported to the police during the year 1891, as compared with 11,041 during the previous year, being an increase of exactly 500.

Of the number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrates, the following table shows the figures for the past four years :—

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Convicted - - - -	11,191	11,273	12,121	13,231
Discharged - - - -	6,454	7,311	8,715	8,023
Acquitted - - - -	5,292	5,008	4,415	3,751
Referred for trial in the Supreme Courts - - - -	397	435	271	337
Total - - -	23,334	24,027	25,522	25,342

The convictions, it will be seen, are creeping up year by year. For 6,371 offences against the person there were 2,520 convictions, 82 less than during the previous year, but for 652 cases of prædial larceny, by which is meant the offence, prevalent in sugar-growing and coolie-importing colonies, of robbing provision grounds and homesteads, the convictions increased from 180 in 1890, to 383—the cases were, however, for the most part of a very trivial nature. For 2,400 offences against property, which include both offences against rights of property and injuries to the subjects of property, the convictions increased from 917 to 1,154, while for 5,854 offences against Masters and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to indentured East Indians for breach of the Labour Laws, the convictions increased from 2,808 to 3,373. Miscellaneous offences numbered 10,065, and out of these there were 5,801 convictions.

To turn now to the punishments by summary convictions, 7,549 cases were met by a fine, 1,336 by peremptory imprisonment, 3,893 by imprisonment in lieu of a fine or surety, 183 by whipping, and 270 by the giving of sureties.

Of the cases, 335, before the Supreme Criminal Court, an increase of 34 on the number of cases during the previous year, judgment for the Crown was given in 230 cases—made up of 101

cases for offences against the person, 102 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, and 27 for other offences. In 57 cases the prisoner was acquitted, 28 cases fell through for want of prosecution, leaving 20 cases at the end of the year awaiting trial.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of persons committed to the several prisons of the Colony during the year amounted to 6,901—5,741 men, 1,081 women, and 79 juveniles— giving a daily average of 789 in prison.

The daily average on the sick list was 25, compared with 24 for the previous year. There were 26 deaths from natural causes, 1 from suicide, and 1 execution.

The total cost per head of the prisoners was about 27*l.* and the net cost, after deducting prison earning, 18*l.* a head.

HOSPITALS.

There were at the beginning of the year 891 patients in the public hospitals of the Colony; during the year 10,837 were admitted and 1,735 died, giving a death-rate of 14·8 per cent., on the number of in-patients treated, as compared with 12,100 cases treated, and 1,686 deaths, a mortality rate of 13·9 per cent., during the previous year.

Out-patients to the number of 41,660 received medical attendance at the public hospitals in Georgetown and New Amsterdam.

The following table shows the number of cases treated during the year 1891 in the several public hospitals of the Colony, as compared with those treated in 1890, showing also the number of deaths under each head.

Diseases.	Georgetown.				New Amsterdam.			
	1890.		1891.		1890.		1891.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic - - -	2,274	417	2,081	375	889	51	750	
Constitutional - -	5,547	731	5,261	888	116	56	114	
Local - - -					998	155	872	11
Developmental - -	231	46	218	15	36	9	41	9
By violence - -	266	22	319	17	101	2	100	2
Other diseases - -	248	—	197	—	238	—	70	—
Total - -	8,566	1,216	8,076	1,295	2,378	273	1,940	269

(*continued.*)

Diseases.	Suddie.				Massaruni.			
	1890.		1891.		1890.		1891.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic - - -	404	35	301	53	144	30	94	16
Constitutional - -	100	27	45	25	3	2	1	1
Local - - - -	396	11	294	52	55	12	57	11
Developmental - -	21	10	32	11	5	1	1	—
By violence - -	10	1	27	—	18	—	14	—
Other diseases - -	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	2
Total - -	931	152	702	141	225	45	171	30

PUBLIC LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The daily average number of patients in the asylum during 1891 was 417 males and 202 females, total 619, or 19 less than the previous year.

Admissions during the year numbered 113, (66 males and 47 females), while 53 were discharged as cured, compared with 171 and 65, respectively, during the year 1890.

Deaths reduced the number of inmates by 70. In 1890 there were 104 deaths.

Restraint, other than interference between patients quarrelling or to prevent injury, has not been resorted to for very many years. Of the patients, a daily average of 167 were employed at agriculture and gardening, 127 at various trades, and 134 at household work, making a total of 438 out of the 619 inmates.

The patients in the asylum on the 31st December were classed as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Maniacal and dangerous - - -	63	7	70
Quiet chronic - - - -	311	175	486
Melancholy and suicidal - - -	20	12	32
Idiotic, paralytic, and epileptic - -	23	11	34
Total - - -	417	205	622

LEPER ASYLUMS.

There were 371 inmates (288 males and 83 females), in the leper asylums of the Colony on the 31st December, 1891, classified as 156 Natives, 23 Islanders, 16 Africans, 146 East Indians, 6 Chinese, and 24 Portuguese.

During the year, 99 patients were admitted (75 males and 24 females), and 11 re-admitted; the admissions being 31 in excess of those of the previous year. The death roll numbered 62.

The daily average number of patients employed at agriculture and gardening was 67, at various trades 7, and at household work 120.

The following table gives the inmates classified under the different phases of the disease, omitting 9 children who are not leprous, but who are in the institution with their mothers :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Anæthetic - - - - -	174	49	223
Jutercular - - - - -	59	15	74
Mixed - - - - -	55	10	65
	288	74	362

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH.

With the development of the country the Postal Department keeps pace. There were, on the 31st December, 61 post offices in the Colony. Of these 37 were telegraph offices, 26 money order offices, and 10 savings banks. Ten years ago there were 49 post offices of which 15 were money order offices.

The estimated number of letters, newspapers, and books posted, was 1,547,565, being an increase of over 15,000 on the estimated number for the previous year. The correspondence with the outer world continues to increase. 1,854 bags of mail matter were received during the year, and 1,448 bags despatched by the Royal Mail Steamers, compared with 1,355 bags and 575 bags respectively in the previous year.

The inland money order business increased from 18,212*l.* in 1890 to 19,157*l.* in 1891. There was a falling off, on the other hand, in the money order service with the United Kingdom, from 47,582*l.* in 1890 to 41,361*l.* in 1891, and in the service to the West India Islands of 479*l.*, the several sums remitted to these islands amounting to 6,017*l.*

The parcels by the parcel post, received and despatched, increased by 448 and 268 to 5,538 and 1,334 respectively.

The length of the telegraph lines throughout the Colony is 260 miles approximately, and during the year 75,429 messages were transmitted over them. The Telephone Exchange in Georgetown consists of a 200-wire switch board, with 189 miles of wire, the longest wire being 15 miles, connecting one of the sugar estates with the Telephone Exchange. Within a radius of $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles of the Exchange the annual rental for business premises is 5*l.*, and for private residences 2*l.* 10*s.*

For the twelvemonths the revenue of the Post Office was:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sale of stamps, &c. - - - -	7,957	3	0
Commission on money orders - -	607	10	8
Receipts in telegraph branch - -	3,534	11	$5\frac{1}{2}$
	£12,099	5	$1\frac{1}{2}$

a decrease of 104*l.* on the revenue of the previous year.

The expenditure amounted to 23,516*l.* 2*s.* $5\frac{1}{2}$*d.* made up of

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Salaries of the department - - -	10,359	3	11
General expenses - - - -	2,015	14	$9\frac{1}{2}$
Conveyance of mails under contract -	8,678	4	8
Renewals and extension of telegraph lines	2,462	19	1
	£23,516	2	$5\frac{1}{2}$

an increase of 2,852*l.* on the expenditure of the year 1890, mainly due to the renewals and extension of the telegraph lines.

With regard to the item of conveyance of mails under contract, this provides also, in most cases, a stage coach for the convenience of the travelling public, but a far more inexpensive service would answer for the conveyance of mail matter alone, so that in considering the figures a large credit should be allowed this item.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The rain-fall for the year, as recorded at the Botanic Gardens, was 100·60 inches: the rain-fall for 1890 was 122·68.

The heaviest rain-fall for any one month was 32·38 inches in the month of December, when 5·90 inches fell on the 3rd; the lowest rain-fall was in July, 0·01 of an inch recorded.

The longest duration of sunshine was recorded in August when the sun was visible for 9 hours and 4 minutes, and the shortest in December, 4 hours and 6 minutes.

The following table gives the mean readings per diem of the barometer, thermometer, wind gauge and sun recorder, with the actual rain-fall for each month throughout the year:—

	Barometer.		Wind force of G.A.W. (0—12.)	Temperature.				Sun recorded.		Rain-fall.
				Thermometer corrected.		Reduction Thermometer.				
	Attached Thermometer.	Correct and reduced to 32° Faht. at mean sec. level.		Maximum.	Minimum.	Solar.	Terrestrial.	Hours.	Minutes.	Inches.
January - - -	78	29·99	·7	82·	72·	135·	69·	4	41	19.14
February - - -	79	30·00	1·2	82·	73·	138·	70·	4	9	10.09
March - - -	83	30·00	·7	83·	74·	143·	69·	5	32	8.42
April - - - -	82	30·00	·6	85·	75·	143·	68·	8	15	3.06
May - - - -	81	30·01	·7	85·	75·	139·	68·	6	21	12·17
June - - - -	83	29·99	·6	86·	75·	142·	66·	7	45	5·14
July - - - -	82	30·02	·6	86·	75·	144·	64·	8	55	·01
August - - -	84	30·02	·6	87·	75·	145·	63·	9	41	5·57
September - - -	85	30·00	·5	88·	76·	147·	65·	9	31	·53
October - - -	85	29·94	·5	88·	76·	147·	71·	9	37	3.63
November - - -	85	29·95	·8	88·	76·	147·	71·	9	5	·46
December - - -	79	29·97	·5	83·	74·	138·	72·	4	6	32·38

SAVINGS BANKS.

	£	s.	d.
The amount on the 31st December, 1891, at the credit of 14,859 depositors in the Government Savings Bank was - - - -	243,817	5	5½
And of 2,263 in the Post Office Savings Bank	9,526	4	0½
Making up a total of	£253,343	9	6

as compared with 257,146*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, standing in the name of 16,973 depositors on the 31st December, 1890.

Of the amounts deposited—

		£	s.	d.
6,873	East Indians had at their credit -	110,723	1	1
29	Chinese „ „ -	820	6	9½
847	Portuguese „ „ -	42,171	10	10
9,373	Creoles and others „ -	99,628	10	9½
	Total - - -	£253,343	9	6

The following statement shows the transactions of the Government Saving Bank during the year 1891 :—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Cash balance, 1890 - -	4,997	15	9	Deposits withdrawn - -	166,885	9	0½
Deposits made - - -	153,447	1	7	Interest to depositors - -	6,769	11	6½
Interest capitalized - -	6,072	2	1	Unclaimed balances lapsed -	181	0	1
„ on investments -	8,441	11	3½	On deposit in Treasury -	10,170	1	3½
„ Treasury deposits -	2,159	19	5½	Advertising - - -	12	10	0
Investments realized - -	5,313	9	1	Surplus cash withdrawn -	66	0	10
Withdrawn from Treasury -	10,833	6	8	Investments - - -	2,600	0	0
Books and stationery - -	14	13	0	Surplus interest pd. revenue -	3,228	5	7
Surplus cash received -	4	17	0½	Accrued interest - -	465	5	0
				Cash balance - - -	906	2	7
Total - - -	£191,284	15	11½	Total - - -	£191,284	15	11½

RAILWAYS AND ROADS.

The Government own no line of railway; the only line, some 20 miles in length, from Georgetown to Mahaica, is the property of the Demerary Railway Company and was constructed many years ago at a cost of 280,000*l.*

During the year 1891 the receipts for passenger traffic were 18,015*l.*, and for goods traffic 17,474*l.*, making a total of 35,489*l.* The expenditure for the same period, excluding any charge for interest, was 21,497*l.*

The roads of the Colony run for 268 miles, for the most part in a parallel line with the sea shore. Of the roads, 136½ miles were maintained by the Government during 1891, at a cost of 16,138*l.*, 7 miles by private individuals, and 124½ by the proprietors of sugar estates through which the roads run.

GENERAL

A general review of the finances of the Colony, extending over the past ten years, leads one to the conclusion that though no material head-way has been made, there are evidences that the Colony is now slowly recovering from the depression which commenced to be apparent soon after the beginning of the decade, which is due to an improvement in the sugar market and also to the increased out-put of gold. Taking the value of the imports as a sure guide in judging of the country's prosperity, it is satisfactory to note that these were higher during the last quarter of 1891, and the first quarter of 1892, than the value of the imports of the Colony for a similar period for many a year gone by. When the depression in the sugar industry was at its lowest, the gold industry came to the rescue of the Colony, and now both industries are improving, the one slowly but steadily, the other by leaps and bounds.

Many schemes for opening up the country, having for their aim the development of the gold mining resources of the Colony, by the establishment of railways and steam communication with the interior, are now under consideration; the history of their success or failure will form a subject for future report.

The immediate future of the Colony is not hard to foretell; judging from the returns it is not impossible that the gold fields of British Guiana will equal if not surpass those of California and Australia. There are indications that the Colony contains the riches of a California and a Kimberley combined; that miners and capitalists will be attracted from all parts of the world there is but little doubt; many have already arrived, having heard rumours of British Guiana's hidden wealth. But it is to the sugar industry in the past that the Colony owes what measure of prosperity it has attained, and though it is to gold that the sensational results predicted are to be looked for, yet in the end the cultivator of the soil will resume his sway and wield the baton of destiny.

But of the more remote future it is harder to speak, and the history of other countries and regions inhabited by English speaking races, or colonized by British enterprise, affords no guide. British Guiana is unique amongst British Possessions. It is a great tropical region, inhabited not like India by the countless millions of an ancient population, but, with the exception of a narrow alluvial fringe along its sea board, only by the remnants of a few scattered tribes. It is not like Australia or Canada whose climate and resources afford all that an Englishman needs to sustain his inherent national and racial qualities. It is simply at present a

"great lone land," whose forests are as pathless and gloomy as those of darkest Africa, whose soil teems with gold and natural riches, but where the climate is treacherous to the stranger, and where the seeker after wealth is as likely to find a grave as a fortune.

Whether these forests will ever be cleared away, whether towns and cities will ever spring up on the magnificent rivers by which the country is intersected, is a problem of the future which the future alone can solve.

DOUGLAS YOUNG,
Acting Assistant Government Secretary,
British Guiana.

Government Secretary's Office,
Georgetown, Demerara,
4th July, 1892.

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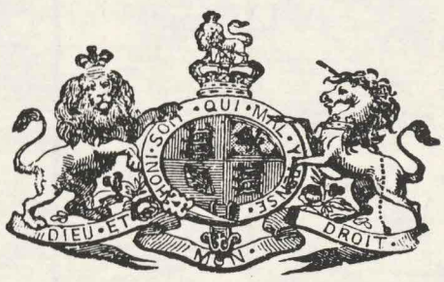
No. 101.

BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892–3.

(For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 55.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1894.



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1894.

[C.—6857.–51.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
64	Sierra Leone	1891
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–3

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 101.

BRITISH GUIANA.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 55.]

Sir C. C. LEES to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Georgetown,
MY LORD MARQUESS, Demerara, November 1, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1892-93, together with the report of the Assistant Government Secretary thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1892-3.

The financial year of the Colony being now the 12 months ending on the 31st March, it has been deemed convenient to alter the Blue Book year correspondingly. The volume under review, therefore, deals with the 12 months immediately preceding the 31st March 1893, and when the results shown during that period are compared with those of the "preceding year," the latter must be taken, unless otherwise stated, to mean the calendar year 1891. Except in a few instances the statistics for the first three months of 1892 have not been printed, as those for the following 12 months afford all necessary basis for calculation and comparison.

TAXATION.

1. Important labours fell to the Combined Court of March 1892, when assembled in Committee of Ways and Means. The Government of the United States having refused to admit the argument put forth by British Guiana, that her customs duties, being imposed for revenue purpose alone, and being neither protective nor differential, could not be regarded as reciprocally unequal or unjust, and having demanded the surrender of duties on United States products amounting to 29,000*l.* as reciprocity for the admission of her sugars duty free into the United States,

it became the task of the Combined Court to replace that revenue from other sources, and so to apportion the incidence of taxation to bring under its operation those who had benefited by the remission of the duties, and who might be fairly expected to bear their share of the burden of replacing them.

But it was fortunately unnecessary to provide the whole of this 29,000*l.* The revenue of the Colony from other sources had been steadily expanding, and it was found, after the estimate of expenditure for the ensuing year had been framed, that an additional sum of 17,500*l.* would be sufficient to meet it. Of this deficiency the planters of the Colony, who are the principal beneficiaries under the Agreement with the United States, at once assumed a direct responsibility for nearly one-half, to be paid in the convenient form of a tax of 2*s.* 1*d.* per acre on sugar estates, which was estimated to yield over 8,000*l.*

To provide the remainder of the revenue required was not difficult. An additional 5*d.* in the ton, on the tonnage dues payable by ships bearing the products of other countries to our improved market and enjoying the commodity of the harbour of Georgetown, was estimated to yield 4,400*l.*; the stamp duties, which had been abandoned by the Combined Court of 1891, were re-imposed in the expectation that they would bring in about 3 000*l.*; and finally, as the duties remitted were in many cases too small to benefit the consumer, a contribution was levied on the middle-man by increasing the shop licenses of the several classes. From this last-named source an increased revenue of 1,900*l.* was expected.

As an Appendix to this report I attach a detailed list of the articles affected by the treaty with the United States, showing those which have been placed on the free list and those which are admitted under a lower rate of duty.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

2. *Revenue.*—The revenue of the year 1892–3 amounted to 573,463*l*, exceeding that of the previous year by 10,300*l.* The principal items which show an increase are:—

	1891–2.	1892–3.	Cause.
	£	£	
Wines and spirits -	42,388	44,040	Increased consumption.
Rum duties - -	61,624	63,197	
Beacon and tonnage dues.	6,049	10,431	Higher tonnage dues imposed by Combined Court.
Other licenses -	25,923	27,824	Ordinary fluctuation.
Gold industry - -	20,729	25,824	Increased production.
Stamp duties - -	13,652	16,939	Extension of stamp duties leviable.

and the principal heads which exhibit a decrease are—

——	1891-2.	1892-3.	Cause.
	£	£	
General import duties -	249,356	238,752	Agreement with the United States.*
Retail spirit licenses -	81,397	77,816	Slight reduction of shops.
Miscellaneous receipts -	10,636	9,602	Ordinary fluctuation.
Interest - - -	14,017	12,686	Bonds paid off.

* The reduction of the estimated loss of 29,000*l.* to an actual loss of 10,604*l.* is due to increased importation of food stuffs at lower rate of duty, and expansion of trade generally.

3. *Expenditure.*—The expenditure for the year amounted to 542,469*l.*, being 717*l.* less than that of the previous year. As the revenue for the year 1892-3 was 573,463*l.*, there is consequently a surplus on the year's transactions of 30,994*l.*

The principal heads of expenditure which show an increase are—

——	1891-2.	1892-3.	Cause.
	£	£	
Colonial Civil Engineer -	8,438	9,237	Staff strengthened.
Government Land Department.	8,526	9,393	Increased work, travelling, &c.
Judicial - - -	35,786	37,413	Incidental.
Militia - - -	2,797	3,492	Amalgamation of Militia and Volunteers.
Police - - -	54,484	59,149	Extension of Administration.
Public debt - -	39,279	42,702	Interest and sinking funds.
Roads - - -	18,013	20,138	Additional roads and heavy seasons.

and the chief heads which exhibit a decrease are—

——	1891-2.	1892-3.	Cause.
	£	£	
Colonial Receiver General	6,681	6,038	500*l.* additional charged to Savings Bank.
Immigration ($\frac{1}{3}$) - -	38,044	35,428	Smaller number introduced.
Post Office - -	24,783	23,719	Less telephone construction.
Prisons - - -	21,627	19,803	Economy of Administration.

LOCAL REVENUES.

4. *City of Georgetown.*—The revenue of the year amounted to 49,586*l.* and the expenditure to 53,251*l.*, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 49,054*l.* and 53,449*l.* respectively. The revenue for 1892 consequently fell short of the expenditure by 3,665*l.*, but in the expenditure is included the

deficit in 1891 of 4,394*l.* The transactions of 1892, therefore, show a credit of 729*l.* The principal sources of revenue are a tax of 2 per cent. on the value of house and land property, yielding 27,906*l.*, the annual grant from the Colony's funds, 4,166*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; market dues, 5,216*l.*; and water supply, 3,031*l.*; while the most costly items of expenditure are bonds redeemable and interest on loan, 10,362*l.*; labour and sanitary superintendence, 6,498*l.*; lighting the streets, 2,634*l.*; salaries, 2,610*l.*; stone for streets, 4,423*l.*; water works, 4,519*l.* The City Fire Brigade cost 4,769*l.*, but half of this amount is contributed by the general revenue of the Colony in addition to the annual grant.

5. *Town of New Amsterdam.*—The revenue for the year amounted to 8,084*l.*, and the expenditure to 7,863*l.*, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 7,110*l.* and 7,132*l.* respectively. The principal sources of revenue are a tax of 2 per cent. on houses and lands, yielding 3,806*l.*; the annual grant from the Colony's funds, 1,041*l.*, and market dues, 1,102*l.*, while the principal items of expenditure are town works, 2,383*l.*; water works, 888*l.*; market expenses, 664*l.*; and redemption of loan, including interest, 740*l.* Like Georgetown, the municipality of New Amsterdam maintains its fire brigade at a cost of 811*l.*, half of which is contributed from the general revenue of the Colony exclusive of the annual grant.

6. *Villages.*—Eighteen incorporated villages, with a population of 25,336, ranging from Plaisance with its 3,187, to Craig with only 395, conducted their own affairs during the year on a semi-independent basis. A tax of 2 per cent. on houses and land yielded 3,745*l.* The expenditure on these villages amounted to 5,797*l.*, the excess of expenditure being contributed from the general revenue of the Colony.

Once more has an attempt been made to place the villages on a satisfactory working basis. They had for many years past been administered by the Central Board of Health, the execution of necessary works being entrusted to the Public Works Department. Their rates were not sufficient to maintain them in an ordinarily sanitary condition, and the yearly excess of expenditure over revenue was contributed from Colonial funds. The general complaint was that the villages had not enough voice in the management of their own affairs, and they claimed to be able to conduct their business themselves more satisfactorily than under existing arrangements. Recent legislation has conceded this power to them, and every village now possesses its own Council with almost full municipal powers, and with one of the principal Government Officers in the district a member of the Council of each village for the purpose of advising on general affairs. But as it is hopeless to expect that every village can be self-supporting, a sum of 2,000*l.* is still placed at the disposal of the Central Board of Health to meet urgent cases, while a loan of 4,150*l.* has been

granted by the Combined Court to be advanced by the Governor in Council when circumstances require and admit a reasonable prospect of repayment.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The total public debt of the Colony on the 31st March 1893, was :—

	£
For sums borrowed for public purposes for which the revenue of the Colony is directly pledged - - - - -	649,800
For sums borrowed by corporations or public bodies under the authority of special laws, and on the security of the revenue of the Colony - - - - -	162,355

the total amount for which the revenue of the Colony is pledged being therefore 812,155*l.*

But from out of the first mentioned sum there has been lent to corporations and public bodies on security of their revenues a further sum of 201,828*l.*, so that the amount by which the total public debt is reduced by loans repayable is really 364,183*l.* instead of 162,355*l.*, as shown in the public debt statement of the Blue Book.

The following is a statement of loans and advances referred to in the last paragraph :—

	£
To the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown	94,392
To the Mayor and Town Council of New Amsterdam - - - -	14,120
To Commissioners in aid of water supply works - - - - -	88,451
Miscellaneous loans recoverable - -	4,864

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

8. By Ordinance 10 of 1892 the Volunteer Militia was converted into a militia purely, and the force has been worked up to a high state of efficiency under the command of the Inspector-General of Police, Colonel E. B. McInnis, C.M.G. It consisted at the close of the year of 17 officers, 42 non-commissioned officers and 198 privates; but since then another company has been raised, and the present strength is a little under 300. The men are drawn chiefly from the mercantile houses and the Civil Service, and all are enrolled for three years. The paid staff consists of a commandant, 300*l.*; an adjutant, 400*l.*, with a sergeant-major, armourer sergeant, and infantry instructors. The total expenditure on the force during the year, including the band, was 3,551*l.* The principal appointments, however, were

only filled late in the year, and consequently this expenditure will not represent the future annual cost.

Public Works.

9. Public works were carried out during the year at a cost of 45,396*l.* Of this sum 29,134*l.*, charged to the year's revenue, was spent on works of maintenance and repair, and 16,262*l.*, charged to loan account, on new works of construction. The principal items under the former head were canals polder, 2,082*l* ; hospitals, 1,612*l* ; military buildings, 1,053*l.*; prisons, 2,064*l.*; police stations, 2,552*l.*; public works plant, 2,287*l.*; rural district improvements, 3,858*l.* ; sea defences, 1,133*l.*; and stellings, 1,059*l.*; and the principal items under the latter head were, amongst completed works, spirit warehouse, 2,611*l.*; sea defences of Plaisance, 1,204*l.*; and amongst those in hand, Cange Bridge, 3,957*l.*; canals polder, 1,257*l.*; Onderneeming School, 1,049*l.* ; police station, Bartica, 2,362*l.*; and house for commissary, West Bank, 1,471*l.*

In the preceding year the expenditure had been 68,602*l.*, of which 32,987*l.* was charged against the year's revenue, and 35,615*l.* to loan account.

Legislation.

10. The following is a list of the Ordinances passed between 1st January 1892, and 31st March 1893 :—

1892.

No. 1.—An Ordinance to impose certain Taxes for the Public Use of the Colony during the Financial Year 1892–1893, and to make provision for the collection of the said Taxes.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to fix a Tariff of Duties on Goods imported into this Colony during the Financial Year 1892–1893.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to amend the East Berbice Water Supply Ordinance, 1890.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to Incorporate the Berbice Library

No. 5.—An Ordinance to authorise a Loan to the Mayor and Town Council of New Amsterdam and to consolidate all outstanding Loans.

The Municipality of New Amsterdam had borrowed various sums from the Colony from time to time at different rates of interest for carrying out water supply schemes and other town works. This Ordinance consolidates those loans and makes them repayable in fifty equal half-yearly instalments of $1,776, inclusive of interest.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to make provision respecting Contagious and Infectious Diseases of Cattle, and other Animals.

Large numbers of cattle were lost on the east coast of Demerara from a virulent disease closely resembling anthrax,

and this Ordinance was passed in order to legalise preventive measures. The disease, however, disappeared as suddenly as it came, and with the exception of a very temporary recurrence in the early part of this year, it has not troubled the Colony since.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to amend the Police Ordinance, 1891.

This Ordinance amends in a few minor particulars, regarding equipment, punishments, and pensions, the comprehensive Police Ordinance passed in 1891.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend in certain respects Ordinance No. 25 of the year 1868, entitled "An Ordinance to consolidate "the Law relating to Licenses for the Sale of Wine, Malt Liquor, "and Spirituous liquors."

No. 9.—An Ordinance to provide for the Collection of Certain Duties of Stamps raised and levied by the Tax Ordinance, 1892.

This is an important Ordinance passed to give effect to the decision of the Combined Court to impose legacy, succession, and testamentary duties in aid of the general revenue. Its administration was at first imposed upon the Chief Commissary, but it has since been transferred to the Receiver-General.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to amend the Volunteer Militia Ordinance, 1891.

This Ordinance so far amends the Volunteer Militia Ordinance passed the year before as to make the force wholly a militia. There are other alterations with regard to the reserve force, resignations, and the staff, which do not call for special remark.

No. 11.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Villages.

This Ordinance represents one more attempt to place the administration of the village affairs of the Colony upon a satisfactory working footing. Each village will possess its own council with power to levy rates and carry out works, and the council will be assisted by the membership of one of the Government officers in the district. The Central Board of Health possesses borrowing powers on behalf of those villages which stand in need of assistance and the Combined Court have voted a loan of 4,150*l.* for distribution as the Governor-in-Council may award.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Prisons.

This is a consolidation Ordinance which has been much wanted. The amendments are few and not very important.

No. 13.—An Ordinance to provide for the establishment and regulation of a town at Morawhanna, in the county of Essequebo.

Morawhanna is a spot conveniently situated in the highway to the gold fields of the North West District.

No. 14.—An Ordinance to make provision for the Sale of Food and Drugs in a Pure State.

No. 15.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 3 of the year 1873, entitled "An Ordinance to make provision for granting "Pensions to Widows and Children of Deceased Public Officers of "this Colony."

1893.

No. 1.—An Ordinance to make provision with respect to the Establishment, Registration, Incorporation and Management of Friendly and other Societies.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Pilotage in the counties of Demerara and Essequebo.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to provide for the recognition in this Colony of Probates and Letters of Administration granted in the United Kingdom and in British possessions.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to provide for the disposal of small sums of money and other movable property found in the possession of persons dying while Inmates of Public Institutions.

No. 5.—An Ordinance for the Suppression of Voluntary and extra-Judicial Oaths and Affidavits.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to continue in force for a further period of one year the Tax Ordinance, 1892.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to continue in force for a further period of one year the Customs Duties Ordinance, 1892.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

11. The new political constitution of the Colony has run its first year and has worked with smoothness and efficiency. Perhaps its principal feature has been the absence of those frequent changes in the *personnel* of the court of Policy and Combined Court, which at times resulted in an apparent want of consistency in the acts of those bodies. The general elections took place in January, 1892, and with the exception of Mr. W. Clark, who now sits as financial representative for the South Eastern Division of Essequebo, in the room of the late Mr. Greene, the members then elected continue to serve at the date of writing.

At the close of the year the number of electors on the register was 2,375, as against 2,046 for the previous year. The increase is confined to the county of Demerara.

COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

12. The Executive Council sat on 18 days.

The Court of Policy held two sessions during the year; the first was opened on the 2nd February, and closed on the 12th May, the Court having sat on 12 days. The second opened on the 27th September, and closed on the 3rd February, the Court having sat on eight days.

The annual Session of the Combined Court was opened on the 28th February, 1893, and sat thereafter on the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th March, when it was closed. The Committee of Ways and Means sat on the 16th March. Amongst the more important matters dealt with were a guarantee of financial support to the works of building a road from the foot to the head of the falls on the Demerara river, and constructing a light railway to connect the Demerara and Essequebo rivers; a resolution approving the terms of a contract to be entered into with the Demerara Railway Company for the extension of a railway from Mahaica to Blairmont, on the Berbice River, and from Vreed-en-Hoop to Philadelphia, on the West Coast of Demerara, and a resolution to provide for additional pension grants to officers receiving injuries in the performances of their duties.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

13. *Appointments, Promotions, &c.*—Governor the Right Hon. the Viscount Gormanston, K.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony for a week in December last, during which Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G., administered the Government, and Mr. Douglas Young acted as Government Secretary. Having been appointed Governor of Tasmania, his Excellency finally relinquished the Government on the 24th March 1893, and left by the Royal Mail steamer on that day. Sir Charles Bruce administered the Government and Mr. Charles Cox acted as Government Secretary until the arrival of his Excellency Sir Charles Cameron Lees, K.C.M.G., on the 4th July.

Mr. Charles Piercy Austin, Receiver-General, died on the 19th April 1892, and was succeeded by Mr. C. B. Hamilton, Receiver-General of Trinidad.

Mr. M. K. North succeeded Mr. A. C. L. Campbell as Assistant Colonial Civil Engineer.

The Hon. Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G., was on leave from 24th March to the 6th October 1892. The Hon. Francis Villiers, C.M.G., acted as Government Secretary, and on the return of Sir Charles Bruce, Mr. Villiers went on leave, his place being filled by Mr. W. S. Turner, Chief Commissary.

Chief Justice Sir D. P. Chalmers was on leave from 14th July to 26th October 1892; Mr. Justice Atkinson acted.

The Hon. A. H. Alexander, Immigration Agent-General, was on leave from 30th June, 1892, to 1st March, 1893; Mr. C. B. King acted for him.

On the 9th November the Colony was thrown into mourning by the death of the Right Rev. William Piercy Austin, D.D., Bishop of Guiana, the venerable prelate who for more than half a century had presided over the Church of England, and directed her missions, in British Guiana. It is impossible in such a report as this to touch, however briefly, on Dr. Austin's life and work; the familiar story has been told in other pages.

With the late Bishop's death all aid from the Imperial Treasury ceased, and the stipend of his successor will have to be provided by the people of the Colony. Strenuous efforts are being made to raise a fund which shall endow the Bishopric in perpetuity, and the amount secured to date yields over 600*l.* per annum.

The selection of a successor to Bishop Austin was entrusted by the Diocesan Council to His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Assistant Bishop of Peterborough, and the Earl of Stamford, and resulted in the consecration on the 25th March last of the Rev. William Proctor Swaby, D.D., Rector of Millfield, Sunderland, as Bishop of Guiana.

Four other deaths occurred amongst the clergy, the Rev. H. J. May, Rector of St. George's, the Rev. Harper Campbell, of the English parish of St. Michael, the Rev. James Muir, of the Scotch parish of St. James, and the Rev. Geo. Salmon, curate of St. Paul's. These last three have been succeeded by the Rev. F. W. T. Elliott, the Rev. James Rae, and the Rev. H. Gainer respectively.

Mr. W. W. Kenrick, Commissioner of Mines, died in September while on a visit to the interior of the Colony. He has been succeeded by Mr. E. P. Wood.

Thirteen public officers on the fixed establishment, receiving salaries of over 100*l.* per annum, died during the year.

Name.	Rank.	Age.
C. P. Austin	Colonial Receiver-General	53
S. C. Clarke	Customs' Officer	55
Rev. W. H. Campbell	Rector St. Michael's	48
J. Craig	Superintendent Alms House	55
A. C. L. Campbell	Assistant Colonial Civil Engineer	37
T. Fraser	Commissary of Taxation	43
J. D. Fraser	Customs Officer	45
H. King	Magistrates' Clerk	69
Rev. J. Muir	Minister of St. James	51
Rev. G. Salmon	Curate of St. Paul's	38
A. Winter	Sub-Controller, Berbice	33
Rev. H. J. May	Rector of St. George's	63
Exley Percival	Principal, Queen's College	44

SECURITY.

14. At the annual inspection of Securities it was found that 178 public officers gave security for the performance of their duties in various sums ranging from 50*l.* to 4,167*l.*

There now remain but four officers who give security by bond. All the others subscribe to the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund.

On the 30th September last a sum of 3,942*l.* stood at the credit of the fund, of which 2,435*l.* belonged to the personal accounts of subscribers, the balance, 1,507*l.*, forming a reserve fund.

PENSIONS.

15. On the 31st December, 1891, the pension list contained 56 retired public officers, and the aggregate pensions amounted to 11,717*l.* During the year under review nine pensioners died, and their pensions, amounting to 756*l.*, fell in.

Seven officers retired during the year and were granted pensions to the extent of 939*l.*

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND.

16. This fund has been worked on its present basis for 19 years and provides pensions at the present time for the widows and children of 123 public officers. It is formed by an abatement of 4 per cent. from the salaries of all public officers receiving stipends of 100*l.* a year and upwards, and the pensions are calculated on life assurance principles.

Its income from subscriptions and interest on capital for the year under review was 10,076*l.*, and its expenditure on pensions was 9,785*l.* The cost of management was 268*l.* 16*s.*

Fourteen public officers died during the year 1892, 10 being on active service and 4 on the retired list, 13 of them leaving widows or children whose pensions will amount to 800*l.*, while 12 pensions, amounting to 359*l.*, fell in through death, re-marriage, or coming of age.

The actuarial history of the fund during its existence seemed to show that the contributions are not commensurate with the guaranteed pensions, and its balance to the good on the year's working had dwindled to some 20*l.* Many recommendations have been made for placing the fund on a sound financial basis, and its condition is now under inquiry by a committee of the Combined Court. It is obvious that a fund affected by the lives of only some 500 subscribers must need periodical adjustment and cannot be worked on the permanent basis of a society dealing with the lives of many thousands.

POPULATION.

17. The census of 1891 afforded a basis for a very complete analysis of the population of the Colony, and those who desire a fuller statement of nationalities and occupations of the heterogeneous mass which forms the life of British Guiana, I would refer to Mr. Douglas Young's interesting remarks under this head in his report on the Blue Book for 1891.

It is with regret that a decrease in the registered population during the year has to be recorded. There were 7,795 births, and 11,070 deaths, but 3,177 immigrants imported from India, in excess of the number who returned, left at the close of the year a deficiency of 98, which would disappear if the immigration from neighbouring islands were taken into account. A return of the influenza epidemic accounts for the very large mortality.

The total population was estimated to be 278,295.

IMMIGRATION.

18. India continues to be the only steady source of the labour supply of the Colony, and 2,862 men, 1,201 women with 630 children, in all 316 less than the year before, were introduced in 1892, and at its close the East Indian population of the Colony was estimated at 109,673. Of these 71,011 were resident on estates, 17,339 being under indenture and the rest, including 16,640 children, free; the remainder were scattered about the Colony in villages or engaged in other industries.

The mortality amongst the indentured immigrants was 26 per thousand and amongst the unindentured 36, a slight increase on the previous year due to the epidemic of influenza before referred to.

The facilities offered by the Indian and Colonial Government for the remittance of small sums of money to friends and relations in India were largely used and 3,080*l.* were so remitted during the year. There stood to the credit of Indian immigrants in the Savings' Banks of the Colony 113,315*l.*, or 1*l.* per head of the population, including children.

421 marriages were "arranged" on board ship and duly recorded on arrival in the Colony.

EDUCATION.

19. The students of Queen's College, Georgetown, had their number increased by eight during the year, and 113 were on the books at its close.

At the Cambridge Local Examination held at Georgetown, in December 1891, 23 students gained the University Certificate, of whom nine were placed in honours classes. The colonial scholar for the year was W. J. Veecock, who secured first-class honours with distinction in English and drawing.

Since the close of the year, the college has sustained a sudden and severe loss in the death of the principal, Mr. Exley Percival, who during the 15 years in which he had worked the institution up to its present high standard of efficiency, had secured, in no usual degree, the affection of the boys and the respect of all classes of the community. The old boys and present students have decided to erect a tomb and to establish college exhibitions to his memory.

20. Primary education was principally carried on through the usual channel of State-aided denominational schools. At the close of the year 187 schools were receiving grants-in-aid amounting to 17,894*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, representing a cost to the Colony of 1*l.* 1*s.* 8½*d.* per child examined and 13*s.* 10½*d.* per child on the books. There were 25,734 pupils on the books, and 13,831 in average attendance, as compared with 25,841 and 14,387 respectively for the previous year.

As there are some 40,000 children in the Colony, it is evident, after allowing for those attending private schools, that there are a considerable number who are not receiving any educational advantages; but the conditions of life in the Colony render the enforcement of the compulsory clauses of the Education Act a difficult and delicate task. All the work in this direction in country districts is done by the clergy and managers of schools, whose efforts are generally recognised.

Reformatory for Girls.

21. This institution sustained but a slight increase in numbers during the year, 36 girls being in it at the close of the year, against 31 on 31st December, 1891.

Several of the girls were placed out in domestic service immediately on discharge, and every effort is made to prevent their relapse into former modes of life; but communication is so easy and removal to any distance from early scenes so difficult that if any of their old associates choose to seek them out and urge their return much of the good is frequently undone.

Imports and Exports.

22. The imports for the year amounted to 1,780,319*l.*, or 72,550*l.* more than in 1891, while the exports were 99,341*l.* less than those of that period, the actual figures being 2,433,213*l.*, as against 2,532,554*l.*

The imports amounted to 6·8*l.* per head of the population, and the exports to 8·14*l.*

From the following table it will be seen that the chief heads of imports which show an increase are beef, pickled, 12,500*l.*; butter, 4,500*l.*; flour, 8,500*l.*; pork, 14,400*l.* As the duty on three of these items was materially reduced under the McKinley Tariff Agreement, it would appear that the labouring classes have not been slow to avail themselves of its benefits. It must be noted, however, that the labourers of the gold diggings are fed by their employers, and fed chiefly on the articles enumerated above. Rice seems to have been less esteemed during the year, for the imports fell off by 39,000*l.*

BRITISH GUIANA. 1892–3.

Statement of the Principal Articles of Food Imported during the Years 1891 *and* 1892–3.

	1891.		1892-3.		Quantity.	
					1892-3.	1892-3.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.
		£		£		
Beef, pickled, brls. -	6,479	16,694	12,659	29,207	6,180	—
Bread, lb. - - -	491,654	5,741	598,260	6,170	106,606	—
Butter, lb. - -	510,232	19,360	597,262	23,888	87,030	—
Corn and pulse, bush. -	171,193	38,058	137,320	30,593	—	33,873
Oat and corn meal, lb. -	2,165,644	8,872	1,508,099	5,952	—	657,545
Fish, dried, quint. -	69,065	64,658	69,498	59,105	433	—
Flour, brls. - -	168,031	157,050	190,853	165,591	22,822	—
Lard, lbs. - - -	374,116	5,354	420,548	6,260	46,432	—
Onions, lbs. - -	1,908,184	6,159	2,151,254	7,439	243,070	—
Pork, brls. - - -	14,854	35,462	18,387	49,871	3,533	—
Rice, lbs. - - -	47,648,564	192,354	37,767,948	153,693	—	9,880,616

2. The exports of colonial produce held their own, the reduction being only 2 per cent. in value, but the exports of foreign produce fell off to the extent of 37 per cent. An unusually heavy wet season, with the falling off in price of rum, reduced the sugar crop in value by 270,000*l.* Gold, however, went far to supply the deficiency, the output amounting to 117,000*l.* more than in 1891.

Comparative Statement of the Value of Exports in the Years 1891 *and* 1892–93, *showing the Increase or Decrease in* 1892–3 *in each item of Export.*

Articles.	Value.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1891.	1892-3.	1892-3.	1892-3.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sugar - - -	1,662,741 6 4½	1,569,972 13 4	—	92,768 13 0½
Rum - - -	266,965 13 9	202,294 4 8	—	64,671 9 1
Molasses - - -	44,269 7 1½	30,640 18 3	—	13,628 8 10½
Gold - - -	375,289 15 10	492,937 12 1½	117,647 16 3½	—
Timber - - -	20,068 13 5	21 831 11 0½	1,762 17 7½	—
Charcoal - - -	7,658 6 2½	9,247 10 1½	1,589 3 11	—
Gum, Balata - -	6,806 14 7	11,296 5 3	4,489 10 8	—
Do., other - -	153 12 5½	341 2 9½	187 10 4	—
Shingles - - -	3,856 12 8½	1,913 3 3½	—	1,943 9 5
Hides - - -	2,090 18 2½	1,569 7 11	—	521 10 3½

Articles.	Value.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1891.	1892-3.	1892-3.	1892-3.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cocoanuts	512 8 3½	338 19 2	—	173 9 1½
Chocolate	7 0 0	469 5 6	462 5 6	—
Cocoa	1,357 4 5	35 14 0	—	1,321 10 5
Isinglass	369 0 10	263 12 11½	—	105 7 10½
Cattle and live stock	440 12 6	943 10 10	502 18 4	—
Bread, biscuits, &c.	556 5 10	303 6 8	—	252 19 2
Cassava starch	18 15 10	148 6 8	129 10 10	—
Firewood	156 5 0	136 3 0	—	20 2 0
Fibre	140 10 3½	73 9 6	—	67 0 9½
Lumber	—	696 11 0½	696 11 0½	—
Plantains	13 10 10	63 6 0	49 15 2	—
Corn and pulse	80 8 4	72 1 8	—	8 6 8
Coffee	345 7 5	202 3 7	—	143 3 10
Miscellaneous	1,814 11 3½	2,063 10 9½	248 19 6	—
Total Colonial produce	2,395,713 1 6½	2,347,854 10 2	127,766 19 2½	175,625 10 7
Total foreign produce	136,841 6 11½	85,358 17 2		
Total export	2,532,554 8 6	2,433,213 7 4		
Net decrease, colonial produce in 1892-3.	—	—	—	47,858 11 4½
Net decrease, foreign produce in 1892-3.	—	—	—	51,482 9 9½
	2,532,554 8 6	2,433,213 7 4	—	99,341 1 2

24. *Direction of Trade.*—The following comparative statement shows the direction and value of the trade of the Colony in 1891 and 1892-3:—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1891.	1892-3.	1891.	1892-3.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	927,397	949,051	1,220,518	1,270,794
United States	374,935	437,395	1,109,083	980,563
British North America	72,106	91,012	44,825	63,820
British West Indies	95,128	76,993	37,987	25,019
Bermuda	1,109	1,014	2,464	1,177
East India	140,718	134,404	223	605
Foreign countries other than United States	88,774	86,735	116,759	89,769
African possessions	—	—	—	486
Newfoundland	7,602	3,715	695	980
Total	1,707,769	1,780,319	2,532,554	2,433,213

SHIPPING.

25. The following statement shows the number of vessels entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony during the financial year 1892–93 :—

Ports.,	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Steam vessels :—						
Georgetown - - -	216	181,886	8,181	214	180,925	8,087
New Amsterdam - - -	6	5,244	161	11	10,197	295
North Western District - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals - - - -	222	187,130	8,342	225	191,122	8,382
Sailing vessels :—						
Georgetown - - -	491	132,102	4,337	489	131,398	4,358
New Amsterdam - - -	22	5,304	152	21	5,586	143
North Western District - -	16	21	26	16	21	26
Totals - - - -	529	137,427	4,515	526	137,005	4,527
Total steam and sailing vessels	751	324,557	12,857	751	328,127	12,909

26. The following comparative table shows an increase in the total tonnage of 6,318 tons, although the number of vessels is decreased by 28 :—

Vessels.	1891.		1892-3.		Increase, 1892-3.		Decrease, 1892-3.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered:—								
Steam Vessels - -	219	186,059	222	187,130	3	1,071	—	—
Sailing Vessels - -	539	132,265	529	137,427	—	5,162	10	—
Totals - -	758	318,324	751	324,557	3	6,233	10	—
Cleared:—								
Steam Vessels - -	226	193,800	225	191,122	—	—	1	2,678
Sailing Vessels - -	546	134,242	526	137,005	—	2,763	20	—
Totals - -	772	328,042	751	328,127	—	2,763	21	2,678

Georgetown not being a port of call, almost every vessel that enters the harbour does so on the Colony's business.

AGRICULTURE.

27. The figures under this head are supplied by the sugar estates of the Colony. There is no record of the operations of the small proprietor or the village community who cultivate a few

acres on their own account. The statistics are much the same as last year, but show a slight reduction of cultivation, due no doubt to the scarcity of labour in some districts, and the abandonment of a large property close to Georgetown, owing to the expense of maintaining the sea defence. 76,974 acres were in cane cultivation, as against 79,283 in the previous year. Plantains grown on sugar estates covered 2,304 acres as against 2,700, while the uncultivated acreage had increased from 82,926 to 88,369. The acreage tax of 12*s.* 6*d.* per acre, five-sixths of which are devoted to the planters' proportion of the cost of introducing labourers from India, and one-sixth of which is carried to general revenue, yielded $48,903.

The following is a comparative statement of the principal agricultural exports for the year :—

Statement showing the Quantities and Values of Sugar, Rum, and Molasses exported in 1891 *and* 1892-3.

—	1891.		1892-3.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		£		£
Sugar -	129,965 hhds. = 116,969 tons.	1,662,741	125,422 hhds. = 112,880 tons.	1,569,973
Rum* -	22,101 puns. = 2,210,133 galls.	266,966	25,790 puns. = 2,579,050 galls.	202,294
Molasses -	13,989 casks = 1,398,900 „	44,269	10,176 casks = 1,017,600 „	30,641

* In 1891 rum sold for an average of 12*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* per puncheon. In 1892-93 it only brought 7*l.* 16*s.* 10½*d.*

Since the close of the period under notice, sugar advanced in price to a figure unknown for many years, but this advance was not fully maintained. At the time of writing it stands 19*s.* 3*d.* and 20*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. in the English market and 3¾*d.* per lb. in the American market.

Most of the smaller industries show a falling off, due probably, as in the case of sugar, to scarcity of labour. The notable exception is the collection of Ballata gum, the export of which has doubled, being 237,405 lbs. against 116,337 lbs. for the previous year. Timber, too, holds its own, the exports being 325,863 feet, against 312,863.

From the figures which the President of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society has been good enough to supply, there would not appear to be any change in the average rate of wages for labour on sugar estates, except as regards masons and carpenters, whose rates are slightly higher, nor does the year appear to have been marked by any great improvement in machinery.

In the markets, market articles, butchers' meat and vegetables, have maintained about the same prices. There is never much difference from year to year in the maximum and minimum price of food supplies. Good vegetables and good meat can always command a good price, and their scarcity only becomes felt when the same price has to be paid for inferior articles.

MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

28. The gold industry continues to produce gratifying and exceptional results. The export of gold for the year amounted to 133,146 oz., valued at 492,938*l.*, against 101,298 oz., valued at 376,384*l.*, during the previous year, and the whole of this has come from placers worked with such rude appliances and such unskilled labour that the Commissioner of Mines, writing with special reference to the north-western district, states:—"These "claims will pay better to work over again a second time "systematically than the generality of alluvial claims in the "world do at the first working, and no doubt will all be worked "over again."

Mr. Wood also writes of the North West:—

"I consider that this district has greater possibilities than any gold-field I have ever seen. I do not mean the Arakaka Creek only, but the whole neighbourhood. The reefs are very rich and increase in size the deeper they get; and there is not the slightest doubt that before very long there will be a large mining population settled there. The route is easy, with the exception of the part of the Barima River above Koriabo, which is a perfect forest of submerged timber, making navigation both difficult and dangerous. I hear that the Government has sanctioned a certain amount of money to clear the Barima,* so that before very long there will be nothing to prevent a steam launch running right up the Arakaka Creek, possibly on to the falls. There seems to be a belt of gold-bearing country running very nearly north and south, crossing the Barima close to the mouth of the Arakaka, and I think it would be advantageous to the industry to have a tract cut a little west of south right through to the Barima River, a distance of about 20 miles, and even eventually to continue it on to the Cuyuni and Massuruni along this belt. I have not the slightest doubt it would well repay the outlay, as I have been shown some wonderful samples of gold-bearing rock from a creek at the back of the Arakaka, that is, to the south."

The placer claims located during the year amounted to 1,122, and the mining claims to 48, but since the discovery of the very rich quartz in the north-west there has been a rush to that district and some 300 mining claims have been located. Three companies with capital locally subscribed have already been formed to work the reefs in this district and in the Demerara River, and others are in course of formation. Machinery has been ordered, and before many months are past it will be at work. It is the general belief of those competent to form an opinion who have visited the various districts that the mines of British Guiana are as rich as any in the world. At present travelling and transport of provisions is tedious and in many places dangerous, but roads are being built

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Work now in progress.

through the forest by private enterprise, and pioneers in this direction are protected by legislation which empowers them to charge tolls for the use of their roads. In reference to the most important of these roads the Government agent writes :—

"It is said to be 12 miles long, though my impression is that it is somewhat more. It is, on the average, about 12 feet wide, and it leads from the foot of the falls right into the placer. It may be said to be only begun, for large gangs of men are, and will for long be, at work on it. But it is already infinitely superior to any other gold-labourers' track known to me. The trees have been cut down along the whole distance, and along large parts of it the stumps have been removed. Almost all the creeks and swamps have already been rendered passable by excellent bridges and earthen dams—of which I counted 49; and the few of these conveniences still required are now being constructed. Another work which is being carried on at this moment is the clearing of the branches which overhang the wetter parts of this road, in order to allow the sun to reach and dry up the ground.

"What the cost of making this road has been, and will be before it is finished, I am not in a position to say; but I am assured that it is already an economy when the increased facility for taking in stores is considered."

Those who know the denseness of a tropical American jungle will appreciate the enterprise which has accomplished this work.

Grants of Land.

29. There is a large increase in the number of licences of occupancy issued during the year. For wood-cutting purposes 20,590 acres have been licensed as against 9,447 in the year before; for purposes of cultivation, 13,488 acres have been taken up, as compared with 2,424; while 4,437 acres have been purchased outright, as compared with 1,050 in 1891. These figures are, of course, insignificant compared with other countries, but it must be remembered that the Crown lands of British Guiana are chiefly dense forests, and a large expenditure of labour and capital is required to bring a few acres under beneficial cultivation.

Criminal Statistics.

30. The criminal statistics for the year show a gratifying diminution all round. The more serious cases coming under the cognizance of the Supreme Court fell back to the record of 1890. The total number tried was 306, judgment for the Crown being given in 196 cases; 91 were for offences against the person and 85 offences against property. There were acquittals in 58 cases, and 47 fell through for want of prosecution.

31. As regards the Summary Jurisdiction Courts, the following table will speak for itself :—

	Convictions.		Acquittals.*	
	1891.	1892-3.	1891.	1892-3.
Offences against the person - -	2,520	2,317	3,724	2,977
Prædial larceny (robbing provision grounds and homesteads) - -	383	201	246	175
Other offences against property -	1,154	1,072	1,091	1,058
Offences against Masters and Servants' Act (including immigration labour law cases) - - - -	3,373	3,256	2,481	2,966
Other offences - - - -	5,801	5,616	4,229	4,364

* Including those discharged for want of prosecution, &c.

A classification of punishments gives the following results :—

	1891.	1892-3.
Fine - - - - - - -	7,549	7,595
Peremptory imprisonment - - - - -	1,336	1,093
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety - - -	3,893	2,446
Whipping - - - - - - -	183	162
Bound over with or without sureties - - -	270	166

There were 10,790 offences reported by the police during the year, as compared with 11,541 for the previous year.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

32. Following on the diminution of crime noted above, is the consequent reduction in the prison population during the year; the total number committed was 5,806, as compared with 6,901 for the previous year. Of this number 4,816 were males and 1,081 females. There is no doubt that the wilder life of the gold diggings has attracted a large part of that lawless portion of the male population which helps to swell the prison statistics, but it is more difficult to account for the corresponding decrease on the female side. Absence of parental control apparently left the younger members of the community to their own devices, for 115 juveniles were committed to prisons as against 79 for the year before.

The daily average in prison was 771, as against 789, the long sentenced convicts helping to keep up the figure. The daily average on sick list was 21, as compared with 25, and there were 24 deaths, as against 26 for the previous year.

The gross cost per head was 24*l.*, but allowing for remunerative work performed by the prisoners, this sum is reduced to 13*l.* 10*s.*

HOSPITALS.

33. In the public hospitals of the Colony 11,458 patients were admitted and treated during the year and there were 1,714 deaths, the proportion of deaths to cases treated being rather better than in the previous year, when there were 10,837 admissions and 1,735 deaths.

Out-patients to the number of 41,051 received medical attendance at the public hospitals in Georgetown and New Amsterdam.

The following table shows the number of cases treated during the year 1892–3 in the several public hospitals of the Colony, as compared with those treated in 1891, showing also the number of deaths under each head :—

Diseases.	Georgetown.				New Amsterdam.			
	1891.		1892–3.		1891.		1892–3.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic	2,081	375	3,170	476	750	97	900	89
Constitutional	5,261	888	4,646	702	114	51	89	49
Local					872	110	582	127
Developmental	218	15	312	24	41	9	45	8
By violence	319	17	322	8	100	2	106	5
Other diseases	—	—	—	—	70	—	80	—
Totals	8,076	1,295	8,450	2,110	1,940	269	1,802	278

continued.

Diseases.	Suddie.				Bartica.			
	1891.		1892–3.		1891.		1892–3.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic	301	53	307	51	94	16	183	21
Constitutional	45	25	31	14	1	1	14	3
Local	294	52	376	80	57	11	216	50
Developmental	32	11	15	3	1	—	22	3
By violence	27	—	21	—	14	—	21	1
Other diseases	3	—	—	—	4	2	—	—
Total	702	141	750	148	171	30	456	78

In addition to the above there is also a little hospital at Morawhanna, in proximity to the gold diggings of the North West District, which has done excellent service.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

33. This institution, pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Berbice River, less than a mile from the town of New Amsterdam, contained at the close of the year 408 males and 203 females. The admissions during the year consisted of 84 males and 50 females; 56 were discharged as recovered and eight as relieved, 43 males and 31 females died, four more than in 1891.

Three-fourths of the patients were daily employed during the year in agriculture, trades, or household work. Mechanical restraint or seclusion under lock and key was not once resorted to, while restraint by attendants was limited to interferences between "patients quarrelling or to prevent injury."

The patients were divided into the following classes :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Maniacal and dangerous - - -	56	31	87
Quiet chronic - - - -	297	129	426
Melancholy and suicidal - - -	30	25	55
Idiotic, paralytic, epileptic - - -	25	18	43
	408	203	611

LEPER ASYLUMS.

35. The leper asylums at Mahaica and Gorchum contained at the close of the year 382 inmates (299 males and 83 females), an increase of 11 over the number on the 31st March, 1892. Of these 164 were natives, 153 coolies, the remainder consisting of Islanders, Africans, Chinese, and Portuguese. 84 males and 21 females were admitted during the year and three children were born. Nine East Indians were sent back to India, five inmates were discharged, 19 absconded, while 49 males and 20 females died. 111 males and 17 females were employed in agriculture, trades, or household work.

The disease showed itself in the following forms :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Anæsthetic - - - - -	189	50	239
Tubercular - - - - -	47	14	61
Mixed - - - - -	63	7	70
	—	—	370

The remaining 12 were non-leprous children in the asylum with their parents.

Arrangements are being pushed on for the establishment of a leper community on one of the islands in the Essequebo River, where it is to be hoped these unfortunate people will enjoy a more contented if not a happier lot.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE.

36. The postal department continues to augment its sphere of usefulness. The total number of letters, newspapers, book-packets and post-cards sent through the post was 1,581,164, an increase of 57,493 on the previous year. The most noticeable features were the increase of letters by 55,413; of post-cards (inland and foreign) by 16,330, and the decrease of newspapers by 13,792.

The inland money order business increased from 19,157*l.* to 24,568*l.*

The telegraph lines have been renewed in many places and a cable 54 miles in length has been lain between Georgetown and Bartica, a town at the junction of the Massaruni and Essequebo rivers and the point of final departure for the gold diggings in that part of the Colony. The revenue from the Government Telegraph rose from 3,333*l.* to 4,546*l.*

The telephone switch-board capacity in Georgetown has been doubled and now stands at 400, with 314 subscribers. A telephone service has been established in New Amsterdam, where there are 54 subscribers. The convict prison at Massaruni has been connected by telephone with the telegraph office at Bartica, and consequently is now in direct communication with Georgetown.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

37. The following table will show the temperature and rainfall for the year :—

	Temperature.		Rainfall.
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Inches.
April 1892	84	75	·00
May „	85	75	7·78
June „	84	73	24·38
July „	85	73	11·40
August „	86	74	8·05
September „	86	74	5·79
October „	87	75	1·20
November „	85	75	5·06
December „	83	74	12·14
January 1893	82	73	11·73
February „	82	73	12·91
March „	82	73	16·98

The total rainfall, 117·42 inches, was considerably above that of 1891, when the record was 100·60.

It seems impossible to predict the distribution of rain over the 12 months with any approximation. In 1892, June was the wettest month; in 1891, December; in 1890, January; in 1889, June; in 1888, May; while the driest month in each of those years was respectively April, July, November, October, September.

Savings Banks.

38. In the Government Savings Banks in connection with the Treasury, there were at the close of the year 14,678 depositors, being slightly under the number for the previous year, 14,859, but the amount standing to their credit was larger, being 253,527*l.*, as against 243,817*l.* The withdrawals amounted to 154,180*l.*, and the deposits to 157,272*l.* All money deposited bears interest at the rate of three per cent. per annum, calculated on every completed calendar month. Interest paid in 1892 amounted to 6,627*l.* The revenue was 9,064*l.*, and the expenditure 6,627*l.*

39. The little Post Office Savings Banks continue to grow in favour. In 1892 the depositors increased in number from 2,263 to 3,031, and the amount at their credit from 9,526*l.* to 12,529*l.* Two more branches were established during the year, and there are now 12 Post Offices where Savings Bank business is conducted. Their revenue was 343*l.* and their expenditure 276*l.*

The total sum at credit of depositors in the Savings Banks of the Colony was a little under 1*l.* per head of the population.

Railways and Roads.

40. The only railway which British Guiana has ever possessed is a short line of 21 miles from Georgetown to Mahaica, but for many years the question of extending it to the left bank of the Berbice River has engaged the attention of the Government and the Legislature. The general terms of an agreement have been arranged with the Demerara Railway Company, who own the present line, and it may be hoped that within three years the Demerara and Berbice Rivers will be connected by rail, and the towns of Georgetown and New Amsterdam will be within two or three hours' reach of each other. The extension will cover some 40 miles, and the terms of construction are roughly a Government guarantee for fifty years of interest at the rate of 4 per cent. on the cost of construction, a moiety of working profits over 4 per cent. being handed over to the Government in discharge *pro tanto* of any moneys paid under the contract. The amount guaranteed by the Government is approximately the same that is now paid as a subsidy for the Steamer Service between Georgetown and New Amsterdam, and the road Mail Service from Mahaica, the present terminus of the railway, to Blairmont on the Berbice River. These subsidies will, of course, be withdrawn.

The existing line is a paying concern. The passenger and goods receipts for the year amounted to 38,824*l.*, and the total expenditure to 21,398*l.*

41. The roads of the Colony run 268 miles along the coast and the banks of the rivers. 146 miles are maintained by Government, and cost, with bridges, 16,391*l.* The remainder are maintained almost wholly by the proprietors of the sugar estates through which they run.

General.

42. The various interests of the Colony have been touched on under the different heads of this report, and there remains but little to add in conclusion. After years of unprofitable struggle with depressed industries the Colony has emerged confident and unshaken. With sugar at a price which is at least remunerative, with no lack of capital to develop the resources which are daily unfolding themselves, and with the ascertained fact that British Guiana is amongst the richest gold-bearing countries of the world, even if from its geographical position it is precluded from being amongst the most productive, it may well be said that seldom in the history of the Colony have the evidences of present prosperity and indications of future wealth been so marked as to-day.

The one shadow on the present outlook is the scarcity of labour, which is making itself felt more and more. To the gold industry the measure of damage can be but the retardation of production and development, but to the planting community the evil may be of a positive nature. Dependent as the sugar estates are on the villages to supplement the indentured labour which is barely sufficient for cultivation purposes, and wholly inadequate to the demands of the manufacturing season, the planters view with grave concern the steady drain on this source created by the freer life and higher wages of the diggings, and should the supply drop below the minimum necessary to maintain the highly cultivated fields and costly factories in proper order, severe loss will be inevitable.

Immigration schemes are engaging the attention of the Government, and private enterprise has introduced batches of immigrants from the neighbouring islands, but in the meantime it cannot be too widely known that men and women of all races fitted for tropical agricultural labour will find a hearty welcome with ample employment and good wages in British Guiana, whether they select the gold fields or the cultivated portions of the Colony. Acres upon acres of fertile soil suitable for market produce await the farmer, while the mineral wealth of the Colony is yielding itself more and more readily to the skilful, strong, and adventurous.

Charles T. Cox,
Assistant Government Secretary.

Government Secretary's Office,
Georgetown, British Guiana,
30th September, 1893.

APPENDIX.

LIST OF ARTICLES AFFECTED BY TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Articles placed on Free List.

1. Animals, alive; to include only asses, sheep, goats, hogs, poultry, and horses for breeding.
2. Beef, including tongues, smoked and dried.
3. Beef and pork preserved in cans.
4. Belting for machinery, of leather, canvas, or india-rubber.
5. Boats and lighters.
6. Books, bound or unbound, pamphlets, newspapers, and printed matter in all languages.
7. Bones and horns.
8. Bottles of glass or stone ware.
9. Bran, middlings and shorts.
10. Bridges of iron or wood, or of both combined.
11. Brooms, brushes, and whisks of broom straw.
12. Candles, tallow.
13. Carts, waggons, cars, and barrows, with or without springs, for ordinary roads and agricultural use; not including vehicles of pleasure.
14. Clocks, mantel or wall.
15. Copper, bronze, zinc, and lead articles, plain and nickel plated, for industrial and domestic uses, and for building.
16. Cotton seed and its products.
17. Crucibles and melting pots of all kinds.
18. Eggs.
19. Fertilizers of all kinds, natural and artificial.
20. Fish, fresh or on ice, and salmon and oysters in can.
21. Fishing apparatus of all kinds.
22. Fruits and vegetables, fresh and dried, when not canned, tinned, or bottled.
23. Gas fixtures and pipes.
24. Gold and silver coin of the United States and bullion.
25. Hay and straw for forage.
26. Houses of wood, complete.
27. Ice.
28. India-rubber and gutter-percha goods, including waterproof clothing made wholly or in part thereof.
29. Implements, utensils, and tools for agriculture, exclusive of cutlasses and forks.
30. Lamps and lanterns.
31. Lime of all kinds.

32. Locomotives, railway rolling stock, rails, railway ties, and all materials and appliances for railways and tramways.
33. Marble or alabaster, in the rough or squared, worked or carved, for building purposes or monuments.
34. Medicinal extracts and preparations of all kinds, including proprietary or patent medicines, but exclusive of quinine, or preparations of quinine, opium, gange, and bhang.
35. Paper of all kinds for printing.
36. Paper of wood or straw for wrapping or packing, including surface-coated or glazed.
37. Photographic apparatus and chemicals.
38. Printers' ink, all colours.
39. Printing presses, types, rules, spaces, and all accessories for printing.
40. Quicksilver.
41. Rosin, tar, pitch, and turpentine.
42. Salt.
43. Sewing machines and all other parts and accessories thereof.
44. Ship-building materials and accessories of all kinds, when used in the construction, equipment, or repair of vessels or boats of any kind, except rope and cordage of all kinds, including wire rope.
45. Starch of Indian corn or maize.
46. Steam and power engines, and machines, machinery, and apparatus, whether stationary or portable, worked by power or by hand, for agriculture, irrigation, mining, the arts and industries of all kinds, and all necessary parts and appliances for the erection or repair thereof or the communication of motive power thereto.
47. Steam boilers and steam pipes.
48. Sulphur.
49. Tan bark of all kinds, whole or ground.
50. Telegraph wire, telegraphic, telephonic, and electrical apparatus and appliances of all kinds for communication or illumination.
51. Trees, plants, vines, and seeds and grains of all kinds, for propagation or cultivation.
52. Varnish, not containing spirits.
53. Wall papers.
54. Watches when not cased in gold or silver; and watch movements uncased.
55. Water-pipes of all classes, materials, and dimensions.
56. Wires for fences, with the hooks, staples, nails, and the like appliances for fastening the same.
57. Yeast cake and baking powders.
58. Zinc, tin, and lead, in sheets, asbestos, and tar paper, for roofing.

It is understood that the packages or coverings in which the articles named in the foregoing Schedules are imported shall be free of duty if they are usual and proper for the purpose.

Articles admitted at 50 *per cent. reduction of the Duty previously levied.*

1. Bacon and bacon hams.
2. Boots and shoes made wholly or in part of leather.
3. Bread and biscuit.
4. Cheese.
5. Lard and its compounds.
6. Mules.
7. Oleomargarine.
8. Shooks and staves.

Articles admitted at 25 *per cent. reduction of the Duty previously levied.*

1. Beef, salted or pickled.
2. Corn or maize.
3. Corn meal.
4. Flour of wheat.
5. Lumber of pitch pine, in rough or prepared for buildings.
6. Petroleum and its products, crude or refined.
7. Pork, salted or pickled.
8. Wheat.

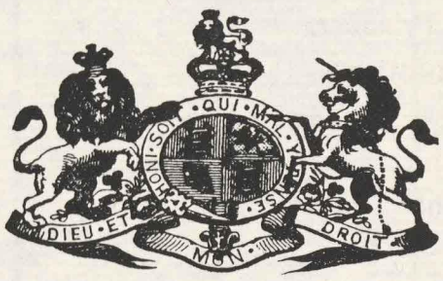
No. 73.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 19.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1893.



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1893

[C.—6857.–23.]

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* Not printed.

No. 73.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 19.]

Sir ALFRED MOLONEY to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

Government House, Belize,
October 31, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report as follows on the Blue Book for the Colony of British Honduras for 1891.

A.—*Taxes, Duties, and Fees.*

There has been little change under this heading during the year. Cigarettes and cut tobacco have been added to articles of dutiable imports, and the list of exemptions has been increased in favour of plant for the establishment of electric lighting, building, and filling-in materials, mahogany truck carts, fresh meat, fish and oysters, turtle, passengers' luggage, tombstones, tablets, grave railings, firewood, patterns and samples of no saleable value.

B.—*Post Office.*

This institution is in association with the Customs and Treasury, a combination originally based, doubtless, on economy, but one that cannot be considered as satisfactory as would be a separate establishment.

The Money Order system exists between Belize and the United Kingdom. It was established in 1864; so far it has not been applied to the districts.

The introduction of a system of postal orders between Belize and the districts, but payable at the Treasury and Sub-Treasuries which is under consideration, would be an undoubted public convenience.

Foreign money orders are issued and received through the General Post Office, London.

The difficulty experienced in making remittances to meet payments made in the United Kingdom on behalf of the Colony considerably contracts the aim and utility of the Money Order system.

C.—*Revenue and Expenditure.*

The estimated revenue was $304,848 and the actual revenue $357,634.01, showing an excess over the estimate of $52,786.01

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which was due to receipts under Customs in excess of anticipations to the amount of $29,426.54 and to an abnormal sale of surcharged postage stamps to collectors, which realised $23,521.

The actual expenditure, ordinary and extraordinary, of the year was $348,282.98 against an estimate of $390,426.86. The difference of $42,143.12 represented by a saving of $2,294.18 under certain heads of ordinary expenditure of the year, and of $39,849.70 under certain subheads of the vote for extraordinary expenditure.

There was, however, an expenditure during the year of $9,148.01 in excess of certain votes.

The following are comparative statements of revenue and expenditure for 1890 and 1891:—

Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	1890.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Customs	196,371 25	202,426 54	6,155 29	—
Light and Wharf Dues	8,918 04	9,269 22	351 18	—
Internal Taxation	74,731 48	66,892 59	—	7,838 89
Revenue of Government Property	14,082 70	14,691 04	608 34	—
Court fines, fees of office, payments for specific services and reimbursements in aid.	25,960 35	25,815 41	—	144 94
Post Office	5,611 68	27,909 32	22,297 64	—
Interest	1,651 53	1,757 86	106 33	—
Miscellaneous receipts	3,828 59	5,302 53	1,473 94	—
Sale of Crown Lands	1,080 25	3,569 50	2,489 25	—
	$332,135 87	$357,634 01	$33,481 97	$7,983 83

Expenditure.

Establishments and Services.	1890.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Charges on account of Public Debt	8,747 57	8,535 71	—	211 86
Pensions	9,018 94	8,860 75	—	158 19
Governor and Councils	18,356 68	19,458 21	1,101 53	—
Colonial Secretary's Department	9,636 90	10,418 58	781 68	—
Auditor and Registrar	1,162 50	2,846 91	1,684 41	—
Treasury, Customs, and Post Office	49,719 09	53,988 79	4,269 70	—
Judicial	13,144 79	14,901 33	1,756 54	—
District Magistrates	15,042 56	16,640 22	1,597 66	—
Constabulary	68,664 07	71,995 40	3,331 33	—
Prisons	15,029 04	15,818 45	789 41	—

Establishments and Services.	1890.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Public Health and Hospitals -	18,916 86	21,286 29	2,369 43	—
Education - - - -	12,549 68	14,674 70	2,125 02	—
Ecclesiastical - - - -	450 00	450 00	—	—
Surveyor-General - - -	8,704 57	11,793 27	3,088 70	—
Interest - - - - -	1,352 67	1,101 91	—	250 76
Miscellaneous - - - -	8,894 27	7,861 70	—	1,032 57
Colonial Engineer's Department -	6,972 96	7,419 63	446 67	—
Public Works recurrent - -	21,648 46	14.060 60	—	7,587 86
Public Works recurrent (general, incidental Expenses).	—	80 23	80 23	—
Public Works extraordinary - -	27,055 05	46,090 30	9,035 25	—
" " " award and costs to contractor.	29,385 88	—	—	29,385 88
	$344,452 54	$348,282 98	$42,457 56	$38,627 12

D.—*Municipal Government.*

The question of the establishment of local government has been and still is under the consideration of the Government. It is generally accepted that there should be an assignment of management and control over their local affairs to the districts, when the capacity of the people to exercise such rights with utility to themselves and to the districts is beyond doubt. Outside of Belize, the capital of the Colony, the circumstances of the centres of districts do not yet justify the establishment of municipal government, but they should be capable of being educated up to the requisite standard through the medium of the Local District Health and Road Boards. British Honduras supplies an example of the aggregation not only of power but also of interest, in the central place of rule.

E.—*Public Debt.*

The Colony had on the 31st of December, 1891, a public debt by loans of $114,128.38 for the repayment of which an annual appropriation regularly proceeds. It approximates but a third of a year's income, a condition of solvency on which the Colony can look with confidence. In connexion with its future development British Honduras can look with comforting assurance to its local resources. It is estimated that there remain unalienated 1,763,842 acres of crown land, the price of which stands at $2 per acre.

F. *Military Expenditure.*

The Imperial troops were withdrawn from the Colony on the 6th of May 1888. There was established a local defensive force, the

British Honduras Constabulary, with its headquarters in Fort Barlee, at Corosal, the capital of the Corosal district, and its chief advanced post in Fort Cairns, at Orange Walk, the capital of the Orange Walk District.

A blockhouse garrisoned by the force stands in a commanding position at August Pine Ridge, 6½ miles from Corosalito on the Hondo, which there divides the Colony from Mexico.

The constabulary, although under military organisation and discipline, is essentially a civil body, and its members are bound to perform all the duties appertaining to the office of a constable.

Comprehensive Standing Orders and Regulations for the information and guidance of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and constables of the force have been drafted and are under the consideration of the Government. Each member has been placed in possession of rules for his guidance in criminal matters. As in addition to English a colloquial knowledge of the language most widely used in the Colony has been considered as indispensable to the efficient performance of their police duties, classes for the acquisition of Spanish have been established at Corosal and Orange Walk.

With the co-operation of the Governments of Jamaica and Barbados, recruiting when vacancies have to be filled up proceeds in those islands.

C.—*Public Works.*

Multifarious have been the duties that have been imposed upon the Department of the Colonial Engineer, who is primarily responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the public buildings, in addition to several other functions. The staff hitherto allowed, though ready and active, has been unequal to what has been expected from its members and to the growing requirements of a progressive Colony.

In addition to such ordinary repairs as could be, under the circumstances, done for the upkeep of the public buildings of the capital and districts, the Belize Town and Harbour Improvements represented the chief service of the year. This most important work was interrupted by the breakdown and condemnation of the old dredger; it was replaced from New Orleans by a Menge dredger, which was put together locally, and began its operations on the 21st November 1891.

Whilst these improvements have made considerable progress, and have contributed mainly to the good health that has prevailed towards the latter part of the year and uninterruptedly since, the amount of work done has fallen short of expectations. The operations of the new dredger had to be confined to filling in and bringing up to the prescribed level the southern foreshore as far east as Bishop Street.

From extra material thrown up certain lowlying lots have also been raised to a sanitary condition. On this service there was

expended during the year and met from General Revenue the sum of $40,062.06 which it was intended to defray from the loan for the purpose authorised to be raised under Ordinance No. 10 of 1891.

A pile bridge has been imported to span the river which intersects the Stann Creek Town. Its erection has been delayed, with I fear considerable local public inconvenience, from the want of the necessary skilled labour.

Neither roads nor a road system exists. Land communication, so far as it can be effected, has to depend to-day, as it had to, doubtless, generations ago, on mahogany truck and wing paths on logwood "picados" (machete clearances in forest to admit of mule or donkey passage to bring out logwood to cart roads), and on the primitive forest tracks that are utilised to connect such truck paths.

A survey for a line of railway from Belize to the frontier of the Colony was begun in December under a contract dated the 25th November 1891, entered into by the Crown Agents for the Colonies with Mr. R. W. Starkey.

H.—*Legislation.*

The following Ordinances have been passed by the local Legislature and have received the Royal Assent:—

1. To make provision for the Public Service of the Colony for the year 1891.
2. To confirm and allow certain expenditure incurred for the Public service of this Colony during the year 1890 in excess of the grants for that year.
3. To enable certain payments to be brought to account as charges against the General Revenue.
4. To enlarge the provisions of Ordinance No. 6 of 1889, entitled an Ordinance "to appropriate certain revenues for local "purposes."
5. To amend chapter 83 of the Consolidated Laws, in so far as it relates to Public Office Hours.
6. To provide for the appointment of a Local Board of Health for the town of Belize.
7. To alter the constitution of the Quarantine Board.
8. To amend chapter 93 of "the Consolidated Laws" in so far as the same relates to duties of Customs.
9. To amend chapter 91 of "Consolidated Laws" relating to the Constabulary.
10. To authorise the raising of a Loan not exceeding 20,000*l.*

I.—*Civil Establishment.*

The changes during the year were few.

I was appointed to the Government of the Colony on the 28th February in succession to Sir R. T. Goldsworthy and assumed my duties on the 16th August, relieving Mr. Melville, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, who had been administering since the beginning of the year.

Mr. S. Olivier, of the Colonial Office, who had been acting as Colonial Secretary, returned to England in March, from which time until my arrival Mr. Melville performed the combined duties of Administrator and Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Nicholl, Stipendiary Magistrate of Demerara, acted as Chief Justice during the absence, from 31st August to the end of the year, of Mr. W. J. Anderson.

The office of Auditor, which had previously been combined with other duties, was erected into a separate department and Mr. D. Macdonald appointed thereto.

Two assistant surveyors were appointed in the Land Department, Messrs. S. A. Harris and R. H. Franklin, who are under agreement for three years' service.

Other acting appointments made were the late Mr. P. B. Wright to act as Clerk of Councils, and Mr. A. K. Young, second clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office, to act as Magistrate of the Toledo District during the absence of Mr. Travers.

J.—*Pensions and Gratuities.*

The Local Statute Book includes no Pension Act. Retiring allowances have been regulated and accepted under the provisions of the Imperial Act 22 Vict. chap. 26. Such a practice, based as it is on Imperial precedents, has rendered resort to local legislation unnecessary.

For 1891 the Pension list for which the Colony was liable amounted to $9,079.92. There was no addition to it during the year.

K.—*Vital Statistics.*

The Blue Book contains the Census Statistics of the Colony for 1891. The population is returned as 31,471, made up of 16,268 males and 15,203 females, and shows an increase of 14·64 per cent. over its population in 1881, when it was 27,452, composed of 14,108 males and 13,344 females.

At the time of the taking of the Census it was estimated that there were 1,404 men, women and children of the Colony engaged in wood cutting beyond the River Hondo, in the Republic of Mexico. If this estimate be correct the gross population for 1891 may

be taken as 32,875 and as having increased 19·75 per cent. within the last decade.

The births registered during the year for the Colony were 1,372, and the deaths 1,242.

The actual population of the Colony was not known at the beginning of the year, so for purposes of rating the figures of the Census taken on the 5th April 1891 have had to be utilised. The birth-rate was 43·60 per 1,000 and the death-rate 39·46. Among the total births the percentage of illegitimacy was 44·31. The death-rate has been considerably swollen from the heavy loss inflicted by an epidemic of small-pox in the Orange Walk district and by the high mortality among children under five years of age, whose deaths for the year have been returned as 696.

Fever, dysentery, small-pox, and debility have been returned as the chief causes of death during the year.

There were solemnised during the year 379 marriages, chiefly among the labouring class, of which 162 were of persons (31 males and 131 females) under age.

L.—*Ecclesiastical.*

The following return of the churches and other buildings used for public worship, and of clergy is compiled from the information kindly placed at the disposal of the Government by the heads of the different Christian religious bodies:—

Denomination.	No. of Clergy.	Churches and other places of Worship.
Church of England - -	2	8
Roman Catholic - -	9	47
Wesleyan - - - -	6	15
Presbyterian - - -	1	2
Baptist - - - -	1	7

M.—*Education.*

The religious bodies here are now to be recognised as the popular educators; they are, as such, composed of the Wesleyan, Roman Catholic, Baptist, and Church of England denominations. For some time there was in Belize a Government school, but in 1868 it was closed, because the results did not justify, it is said, the expenditure involved, which it was decided might more properly and profitably be devoted towards assisting the religious bodies mentioned in their educational work and its extension. Since the 1st October 1868 grants in aid of such schools based on average attendance have been made from the Treasury.

There are some twelve private unaided schools in Belize, Corosal, and Orange Walk with an enrolment of some 150 to 180.

Tuition is confined, as far as practicable, to English in all assisted schools of the Colony, but the Spanish, Carib, and Maya languages have to be at times resorted to as media of instruction.

The wood industries of the Colony necessitate the annual withdrawal for most part of the year from established educational centres of many children who have to accompany their parents. The question of the extension of some system of intermittent education to those who are obliged to go with their fathers and mothers to logwood and mahogany works has been, and is still, under consideration. Aided schools are in some places so situated as to admit of resort thereto by some of these children, whilst at other points not so fortunately fixed it has been represented that the number of children likely to be found would not justify the cost of the application of such a system even if willing and efficient teachers were available.

Difficulties in the way of education are preference for town to rural life, which is encouraged by the comparative cheapness of living coupled with greater comfort and a condition of social life and general intercommunion that does not obtain in the country; insufficiency of means, and keen competition for the services of the few available teachers, many of whom prefer a store, desk, or mahogany bank, with its prospective monetary and other advantages, even though they be but visionary, to the monotonous, lonely, and somewhat mechanical position of a town or village schoolmaster.

Again there must be recognised the want of roads, the river floods, the scattered distribution of the population, the difficulty of communication at certain seasons, which affects the attendance of children and the visits of the inspector, and entails unavoidable interruption to school work. Another difficulty with which teachers have to contend in the Corosal, Orange Walk, and Cayo districts is the fact that the majority of the children being of Mayo or Spanish descent and ordinarily speaking, as is natural, only these languages have to acquire a knowledge of the subjects specified in the Educational Code through the medium of what is to them a foreign language.

It appears from the Report of the Inspector of Schools that the number of pupils upon the registers during 1891, was 2,994. The average attendance was 2,013 or 67·24 per cent.

N.—*Exchanges, Moneys, Weights and Measures.*

The standard of value is the Guatemalan dollar adopted in 1887 under Her Majesty's Proclamation dated 15th September

1887 and Ordinance No. 1 of 1889; the following are the coins current and accepted as legal tender :—

Coin.	Metal.	Limit of Tender.
Guatemalan Dollar - - -	Silver.	None
„ Half Dollar - - -	„	50 Guatemalan dollars
„ Quarter Dollar - -	„	Do.
„ One-tenth Dollar - -	„	Do.
„ One-twentieth Dollar -	„	Do.
Chilian Dollar or Sol - - -	„	None
„ Half Dollar or 50 Centavos -	„	50 Guatemalan dollars
„ One-fifth Dollar or 20 Centavos	„	Do.
„ One-tenth Dollar or Decimo -	„	Do.
„ One twentieth Dollar or Half Decimo	„	Do.
Peruvian Sol - - - -	„	None.
„ Half Sol - - -	„	50 Guatemalan dollars
„ One-fifth Sol - - -	„	Do.
„ One-tenth Sol or Duiero -	„	Do.
„ One-twentieth Sol or Half Duiero	„	Do.
One cent. piece of British Honduras -	Bronze	Half Guatemalan dollar

Accounts are kept in dollars and cents.

The general condition of the silver market and its effect on exchange as well as on the local purchasing power of the standard dollar is a matter of anxious concern to every one. A popular movement has begun in favour of a gold standard.

As to weights and measures, the Imperial standard is adopted as a basis generally, but the following Spanish weights and measures are also used :— 1 arroba = 25 lbs., 1 quintal = 100 lbs. *Dry Measure.*—1 almud = 5 quarts for corn, 1 caigo = 60 quarts, 1 barrel = 110 quarts, 1 benequen = 55 lbs. for lime; in land measure 1 vara = $\frac{11}{12}$ of a yard, 1 mecate = 22 yards.

P.—*Shipping.*

The total number of sailing vessels entered for 1891 was 312 with a tonnage of 36,089, and the crews amounting to 1,593. In the previous year the numbers under like headings were 344; 33,533; and 1,710.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1891.

For those years the British sailing vessels that entered were as follows :—

	Number.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1891 - - - -	127	9,001	615
1890 - - - -	159	9,912	742

In 1891 there were no vessels direct from the United Kingdom. Entries were made chiefly viâ the Republics of Spanish Honduras, Mexico, Guatemala, the United States, and Nicaragua, and the British Colonies of Antigua and Barbados.

The sailing vessels which cleared in 1891 totalled 310 with an aggregate tonnage of 36,475 and crews of 1,616. Of this number 62 cleared for the United Kingdom with an aggregate tonnage of 22,156.

The number of steam vessels entered was 191 with a gross tonnage of 142,515 and a total in crews of 5,238. Of this number the British tonnage was represented by 52,883 as compared with 89,632 foreign, chiefly represented by the steamers of the New Orleans line.

There cleared during the year 189 steamers with a tonnage that aggregated 139,194 and crews that totalled 5,090.

Q.—*Steam Communication, freights and passages.*

During the year under review a fresh contract was entered into with Captain Leitch, as representing the New Orleans-Belize Royal Mail and Central American Steamship Company of No. 36, Canal Street, New Orleans, by which, for an annual subsidy of $20,000, a weekly mail service between Belize and New Orleans is secured. The contract is for five years, computed from the 12th January 1892.

The steamers of the Central American Line from New York, whose office is at 19, Whitehall Street, in that city, also call at Belize about once every three weeks, and the Scrutton and Harrison Line steamers, from London and Liverpool respectively, visit the colony monthly.

R.—*Languages of the Colony.*

The language most widely spread and perhaps known is Spanish, next stands English, and then comes Maya (Indian), and lastly must be placed Carib.

In the Corosal and Orange Walk districts Spanish predominates, although they contain, scattered about, small Indian villages. Maya is the language of the Cayo district, whilst Carib may be associated

with the capitals of the Stann Creek and Toledo districts, with other small Carib intermediate villages along the foreshore.

In the Toledo district are situate two interesting Indian townships, San Antonio and San Pedro Sarstoon.

8.—*Articles of Ordinary Use and Consumption.*

For residents, intended settlers, and immigrants under agreement, the following average local prices of various articles of ordinary use and consumption may be of convenience for reference :—

Wheaten, ration, flour, per barrel of 196 lbs., $8 to $9.
„ family „ „ „ $11 to $12
Wheaten bread, per loaf, 6¼c.
Horned cattle, each, $43 to $46.
Horses (Central American), each, $65 to $80.
Sheep, each, $7 to $10.
Goats, „ $3 to $7.
Hogs, „ $6 to $18.
Milk, per quart, 25c.
Butter (salt), per lb., 62½c.
Cheese, per lb., 37½c.
Fish (fresh), per lb., 15c. to 18¾c.
Beef, per lb., 18¾c.
Mutton, per lb., 31¼c.
Pork, per lb., 18¾c.
Turtle, per lb., 12½c.
Rice (imported), per quart, 12½c
Coffee, per lb., 37½c.
Tea, per lb., 75c. to $1.25.
Sugar (raw), per lb., 6c. to 9⅜c.
Salt, per cwt., $1.
Wine, per bottle, $1·25 to $1.75.
Brandy, ***, per bottle, $2.50.
Beer, per bottle, 37½c. to 44c.
Tobacco leaf, per lb., 31¼c.
Charcoal, per bag, of 60 lbs., $1.25.
Lemonade, per dozen, $2.
Sodawater, per dozen, $2.
Ginger ale, per dozen, $2.
Apollinaris, per dozen, $2.25.
Fowls per dozen, $7.50.
Ducks, per dozen, $9.
Pigeons, per dozen, $3.
Turkeys, each, $2.50 to $4.50
Ham, per lb., 31¼c. to 50c.
Bacon, per lb., 18¾c.
Firewood, per 100 sticks, $1.
Eggs, per dozen, 50c. to 75c.
Fish, per lb., 4c.

Bananas, per bunch (small)., 6¼c. to 18¾c.
Plantains, per dozen, 12½c.
Yams, per cwt., $3.
Pineapples, each, 6¼c. to 25c.
Cassava, 4 lbs., 6¼c.

T.—*Agriculture, Cultivated and Uncultivated Lands.*

It is estimated that the area of the colony embraces 4,839,408 acres, of which by the close of 1891 there were 82,230 leased from and 1,684,941 acres at the disposal of the Crown, whilst 3,075,566 acres were alienated.

The economic cultures of the Corosal district were chiefly Indian corn, sugar cane, bananas, plantains, coacoanuts, henequen, rice, coffee and tobacco; of the Orange Walk district, Indian corn, sugar cane, bananas, plantains, limes and oranges; of the Cayo district, Indian corn, sugar cane, rubber, coffee, oranges, and pine-apples; of the Belize district, bananas, cocoanuts, sugar cane, rice, oranges, limes, and pineapples; of the Stann Creek district, bananas, cocoa, rubber, pineapples, limes, oranges, and avocado pears; and of the Toledo district, sugar cane, Indian corn, rice, bananas and pineapples. Rum and sugar are manufactured in the Corosal, Orange Walk, Cayo and Toledo districts.

Proprietors owning land under 10 acres, between 10 and 640 (1 square mile) acres, and above 640 acres, numbered 596; 258; and 46, a distribution of ownership which may be of pecuniary and commanding advantage to a few who will not sell and oppose settlement, but is at variance, in my opinion, with the general local interests when it is remembered that of the colony's area 3,075,566 acres have been alienated. It is not to be expected that townships on private property will be established by tenants at will, nor will property be improved so long as the unearned increment has but one direction. Small proprietors, whether urban or rural, are not encouraged, and gradual depopulation marks this policy. The population of the Corosal and Orange Walk districts were returned as, Corosal 7,330, and Orange Walk 4,109 in 1881, and Corosal 5,544 and Orange Walk 4,943 in 1891; the decrease at Corosal would be more marked were not the headquarters of the constabulary there.

For the opposite picture turn to the zone of Crown land; the population of the Southern district, embracing the present Stann Creek and Toledo districts, has increased from 4,804, at which it stood in 1881, to 6,965; there the growth is at once recognisable among the crown lessees and small proprietors of what was formerly Crown land. An interesting example of this is afforded by the town of Monkey River, with its population of now nearly 700, against 250 in 1881.

U.—*Constitution of the Supreme Court*

The Supreme Court is constituted by Chapter VIII. of the Consolidated Laws, and has all the jurisdiction, powers, and authorities possessed by the High Court of Justice in England.

The Court is now presided over by the Chief Justice, but may consist of the Chief Justice and such other judge or judges as may be appointed by the Governor in accordance with instructions from Her Majesty.

The Supreme Court also has appellate jurisdiction over cases determined in all inferior courts and in respect of any misdirections or rulings of the judges thereof.

An appeal lies from the decision of the Supreme Court to :—
(1.) The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.
(2.) The Supreme Court of Jamaica.

by virtue of the Imperial Act 44 & 45 Vict. cap. 36 "An Act to "authorise the establishment of a Court of Appeal for Her "Majesty's Colony of British Honduras."

This Act came into operation within the Colony on the 26th April 1883, under Proclamation dated the 17th April 1883. Since then there have been no appeals to Jamaica. Altogether there have been three appeals to the Privy Council.

The procedure in appeal to the Privy Council is regulated by section 54–61 Chapter VIII. of the Consolidated Laws.

The rules regulating appeals from the Supreme Court of Judicature of the Colony of British Honduras to the Supreme Court of Judicature of the island of Jamaica are dated the 5th February 1883, and were locally published on the 5th May following.

Appeals from all "inferior courts" are regulated by Chapter XII. of the Consolidated Laws. Any person may appeal from the decision of such a court.

The Supreme Court sits as an appeal court on the third Wednesday in every month, if there are any appeals ready for hearing.

There is neither Bankruptcy Law nor Divorce Law in force in the Colony.

W.—*Gaols and Prisoners.*

The gaol in Belize is the central and only prison of the Colony. It is on the separate system and contains 77 cells (male 71, female 6, in separate compounds); to it are committed all assize prisoners. The criminal assize is held in Belize on the first Monday in February, May, August, and November, and at Corosal, the capital of the district of that name, on the first Monday in January, April, July, and October. The condition of this institution reflects credit on the prison authorities.

In the districts there are so-called prisons, but they would be more appropriately described as lock-ups for the confinement of prisoners under sentence of the district court. Such committals are not included in the statistics of the Belize Gaol.

The district courts are courts of summary jurisdiction; the maximum term of imprisonment they can impose is three months. Such sentences are about to be placed by law under the direct supervision of the Supreme Court.

The useful employment and industrial training of the prisoners in the Central Prison is promoted, but there is no system yet established, nor workshops provided. In the districts the prisoners are employed in the service of the prison and on the public scavenging, street repairs, &c. In Belize prison they are employed indoors on their trades, cocoanut-fibre beating, cocoanut-mat making, stone breaking for streets and embankment, hair picking and mattrass making, and in the general service of the prison. Their extern work is confined to the Belize Harbour Improvement, and raising the level of public cemeteries.

For 1891 the daily average in the Belize Goal Hospital was 1·52. General medical statistics of prisoners are in future to be kept and the usual medical reports rendered.

At the close of 1890 there remained in the Belize Goal 63 prisoners, of whom 61 were males and 2 females. The committals during 1891 totalled 122, viz.: 113 males and 9 females. The ordinary discharges were 111 made up of 109 men and 2 women. From the male prisoners there were three escapes, one recapture, and three deaths returned as from natural causes. There have been three cases of flogging, one by order of the Court, two under the authority of the Visiting Justices.

There remained in this prison, at the close of 1891, 51 prisoners, viz., 49 men and 2 women.

The question of further promoting the general efficiency and utility of the Prison Administration is under the consideration of the Government.

The local system of remission of sentences under license is provided for in Rules for the Government of Prisons passed by the Governor in Council, under the provision of Chapter 77 of the Consolidated Laws, on the 15th December 1888

The general situation may be outlined as follows: —

(*a*) Penal servitude is not a punishment authorised by law, but imprisonment with hard labour is substituted

(*b*) Any prisoner sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for a period exceeding three months can earn a remission of his sentence.

(*c*) Remission of sentence is earned by industry and good conduct combined.

(*d*) The maximum remission obtainable is one-fourth of the sentence (for male and female prisoners alike).

(*e*) No difference is made between the first and subsequent offence.

(*f*) Nothing in the Regulations precludes the earning of marks and grant of remission to re-convicted license holders serving the remanents of former sentences.

X.—*Public Institutions.*

The Hospital, Lunatic Asylum and Poor House comprise the above, and are established in Belize; they adjoin and intercommunicate, each standing in its own grounds.

The first institution is the General Hospital of the Colony; it is also resorted to by sick persons from the neighbouring Republics. There is no extern department. A village or district hospital exists at Corosal. Suitable branches are being established in the remaining districts of the Colony, and extern treatment for the poor will be in future a feature in the general administration.

No accommodation for contagious or infectious diseases has as yet been provided; its supply is under the consideration of the Government.

There remained on the close of 1890 in the General Hospital 23 patients, 18 males and 5 females.

Admissions during 1891 totalled 315, composed of 286 males and 29 females. There were during the year 33 deaths, 26 males and 7 females.

Poor House.

Paupers, certified to be so by a justice of the peace and a householder, and by an inspector of police, are admitted into the Poor House by authority of the Governor. They are expected to render assistance, as far as they may be able, in carrying out the internal economy of the institution, and to obey orders given them by the Medicial Officer; on failing to do so they are liable to be discharged.

Lunatic Asylum.

Admissions into the asylum are made under the provisions of chapter 76 of the Consolidated Laws. In 1891 there were 5 admissions, 3 deaths and 2 discharges.

Y.—*Meteorology.*

The highest atmospheric pressures in Belize marked by the barometer were from December to April, the lowest during June and October.

The mean pressure of the year 1891, 29·93, is very near that of the preceding years, and if the average of four years is taken there results 29·94 as the mean pressure of the Observatory of St. Joseph. April had the great range 0·63 in the movement of the barometer from 30·22 to 29·59. A sudden descent from 29·78 to 29·95 on the 24th followed by a very rapid rise gave this unusually high range. This rapid movement was due to a severe hurricane raging in the Gulf of Mexico, and was notified locally by the N.N.E.

wind, which suddenly began to blow with a force of 14 miles an hour after the S.S.E. had been blowing nearly all the day with moderate force.

The annual mean temperate was 79°, which, when compared with the preceding three years, gives a mean of 79·5°. The minima were milder than in the previous years, the maxima never exceeded 92°, and the range of the thermometer for the whole year was 29°.

The predominant wind was E. In ten out of the twelve months this, either directly or veering now towards the N., now towards the S., was the prevailing wind, whilst from October to December a N.W. predominated, blowing with a moderate force. S.E. and N.W. are generally in opposition, and as soon as one ceases to blow the other begins with a certain regularity.

The rain was distributed in unequal quantity in the two halves of the year. The number of rainy days in the year was close on 160, and the quantity of rain nearly 72 inches, yet at the end of June there had been only 46 days of rain with 10·19 inches. The balance to make up the average rainfall of the year had to be expected in the last six months, and in fact by the end of December we counted 110 days more of rain with 60·64 inches, making a total of 71·19 inches of rain in 156 days.

The sky was very seldom perfectly clear. Cumulus and Stratus were the prevailing forms of clouds, usually covering from 5 to 10 parts of the sky.

The hygrometric state of the atmosphere has been persistently high, the psychrometer never showing less than 70° of humidity and seldom falling below 80°, but generally running between 80° and 94°. Hence the constant dampness of the climate, caused by heavy rains followed by great heat.

Z.—*Savings Bank.*

This institution is in association with the Treasury, and was established in Belize in 1846, and was extended to Corosal and Orange Walk in 1881.

The minimum deposit is fixed at $1, the maximum in one year is not regulated by rule or law, but the total amount that may be deposited is limited to $500. The rate of interest is three per cent. per annum.

To encourage thrift and to promote the public convenience the facilities now available for the deposit of money are to be enlarged, and branches will be opened on the 1st of December next in Stann Creek, Punta Gorda and the Cayo.

A 1.—*Telegraphs.*

The Colony has no direct telegraph communication, nor any internal telegraph system; both services are under consideration, and it is hoped, as it is desired, that before long British Honduras

will be connected by cable with the outside world. At present messages from or to the Colony are sent by post, by means of the contract mail steamers to or from New Orleans.

B 1.—*Geology.*

The literature of the geology of the Colony of British Honduras, notwithstanding its contiguity to the Republics of Mexico and Guatemala, to the mineral wealth of which may be ascribed their present comparatively forward state of development, may be viewed as nil. There has been, however, a beginning in the survey of the late Mr. C. H. Wilson, who, unfortunately for British Honduras, died in 1887.

His geological work began early in 1886, lay between 16° and 17° 10′ North latitude, and was conducted inland along the valleys of the Mullins, Stann Creek, Monkey and Deep Rivers. In the interest of the Colony this important service should be resumed and continued as soon as practicable.

There has been since made (April 1888) a flying survey along the valley of the Sittee River to the Cockscomb Mountains, which reach an elevation of 3,700 feet.

In Lock's big treatise on gold, published by Spon in 1882, there is a section devoted to British Honduras.

C 1.—*General.*

The commercial prosperity of colonies which depend on one or a limited number of articles of export is liable to disastrous fluctuations. Striking instances are to be found in the ruin of a once extensive trade, that had been confined to a single commodity, from competition and the inevitable fall in price, from the ravages of rats or locusts, or a single blight. So far British Honduras would seem to have stood exceptionally in the Colonial Empire in having for the past two centuries relied almost entirely upon its forest produce and on its rivers as means of transport to the sea. Some of our West African Possessions have stood somewhat similarly since palm oil succeeded the slave export trade; that industry is now seriously threatened by animal fats and other sufficiently available and equally suitable commodities. One of the extracts from coal tar practically killed the once flourishing and profitable cochineal trade, and also affected the indigo trade of India. Beet has contributed to the depression of the sugar trade. The substitution of iron for wood in ship-building, particularly in men-of-war, almost killed the large timber export trade of the Gambia and West Africa, which is *also* noted for its mahogany, cedar, rosewood, dye and other woods; the marked and progressive revival of that trade and the dimensions it is assuming must naturally be a subject of direct concern and anxiety to all wood-cutting centres.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1891.

Mahogany and logwood trees have been for several generations the principal articles of commerce in these parts, but they are said to be getting more and more difficult of access and consequently more expensive to work and get to the market.

The value of these industries is not for one moment questioned. On the contrary, it is highly desirable to promote them and to protect the forests on which they depend. The Colony's motto, "Sub umbra flores," should have now a more extended application.

In view, however, of such experiences as have been referred to, it has been generally accepted that even in commerce it is a hazardous experiment to "carry your eggs in one basket."

As a guide in establishing profitable industries we must look to the source of supply, the prospects and disposal of growth, and the area of the field of demand. It has now become a generally accepted policy in the Colonies to encourage the production of varied staple articles of export of a more or less permanent character. Much has been done in this direction by the active interest and assistance of the authorities of the Royal Gardens at Kew to develop new industries and to distribute plants of commercial importance. With this objectth ere have been established in all our West Indian possessions botanic stations. A similar institution has been established as a tentative measure in Belize, the capital of this Colony, which has such exceptional advantages whether we look to climate, soil, or a market. It has with some justice been advanced that British Honduras can be made the tropical garden of North America, and it may be remembered that 28° North is generally accepted as the frost line, which may be said to mark the limit northwards within which the growth of economic products in demand can be profitably undertaken.

And again, as to fertility of soil, what more convincing proof can be advanced than the facts that in the sugar areas to the north and south of the Colony cane has been known to "ratoon" from 20 to 30 years, and that in the rich and naturally fertilized valley beds, bananas have repeated themselves without degeneration for 10 to 12 years, if not longer.

The products of its cultural industries, still really in their infancy, are chiefly bananas, plantains, cocoanuts, coffee, henequen —Indian corn, limes, mangoes, oranges, sour and sweet, pine-apples, avocado pears, rubber, to which there should be added in time arnatto, cacao, coir, ground-nut, indigo, jute, pita, ramie, spices, vanilla and doubtless other promising marketable commodities.

To the small extent to which the banana has been successful to the north of the frost line referred to, where it will always be a precarious crop at best, it has proved inferior in quality to the West Indian and Central American fruit. Whilst in 1879 it did not appear among our records its export was represented by 472,436 bunches in 1891.

The plantain is a staple of food over a large section of Negroland in West Africa. The descendants of its interesting people to the

north of of the Gulf of Mexico represent a consuming power of nearly 9,000,000, if the coloured population there have shown by 1890 the same growth it did for the decade which ended in 1880. Tons of this fruit from Cuba and elsewhere meet with a ready sale in Florida. The Colony's shipments to New Orleans rose from 50,000 plantains in 1879 to 1,580,200 in 1891.

The home of the cacao is Central America. Several valuable species are said to belong to British Honduras and include that which is said to be the best in a marketable sense. Notwithstanding it may be said to be here remarkable by its absence from the export cultures of the Colony which have grown in value, in round numbers, from $12,000 in 1879 to $296,665 in 1891. Yet, in the island of Grenada, of the West Indies, and but 5° to 6° to our south, and with an area of 133 square miles and an estimated population in 1889 of 50,000, cacao has developed into its main export, which reached in 1890 a value of 228,319*l.*

The clover-like ground-nut, so desirable as a pasture where the bread-nut is not available, apart from its valuable tuber, and henequen would seem to be admirably suited for growth in the pine ridges, as does also the Ceara rubber. That interesting orchid, the vanilla, whose home is also in Central America, is one of the most valuable products and has near to hand a rich and ever-growing market. Its cured pod fetches as much as 30*s.* per lb. It is a plant easily propagated by means of cuttings, and has developed into a considerable export from Vera Cruz.

Our Guatemalan neighbours seem to turn no small attention to cultivation of the coffee arabica. Whilst it will doubtless prove suitable to the high areas of the Colony, the introduction of the hardy and rich Liberian coffee—so well suited to low-lying areas, with its comparatively heavier crop, averaging from 6 lbs. to 8 lbs. per tree, 400 of which can be accommodated on each acre—should receive the consideration it deserves. Judging from the exports from India, and the imports to the United States, there is a promising field of demand offered in the direction of the latter for the growth of such commodities as jute and other fibres, indigo, ginger, and spices generally.

The cohume oil industry remains yet dormant, if I except the use for domestic and cooking purposes to which it is put among the families of mahogany and logwood cutters. Two-fifths of the Colony, viz. 1,933,762 acres, are, it is estimated, under this graceful "Prince of Wales" palm. If we allow 25 trees to the acre, a very low average, and 1,000 nuts as the annual yield per tree, and accept that 100 nuts yield a quart of oil, this dormant industry, if awakened to full activity, would yield 276,537 tons of oil at a price per ton appreciably above that which obtains for cocoanut oil, to which it is superior.

Then, again, apart from its resinous property, which was turned, I understand, to profitable account some years back, the pine, it is estimated, covers a third of the Colony, or, 1,613,136 acres, and

averages 100 trees per acre on our great southern pine-ridge, much more in other parts. Its wood is said to almost equal that of the yellow pine of the United States, which, in the beginning of 1888, was reported to have been nearly worked out and might, in part, have to be replaced by the local pine. The growth on the older pine ridges of the Colony may, when opened up, prove of sufficient age and diameter to make it worth while to have attention turned to adding this timber to our exports, as can doubtless be done with many other valuable woods as yet unknown.

In Scandinavia, apart from its extensive export as a wood, from its wide use in the manufacture of matches, or from the value of its resinous properties, the pine pulped has been most profitably utilised in the manufacture of a commodity that has developed into an important rival to paper.

The coral patches and marine islets we know as "Cays," that fringe to the eastward the waters of this Colony, offer a condition of site exceptionally favourable for the growth of henequen and the cocoanut tree, described as the most tender of palms as regards frost, the friend of tropical agriculturists. The area of such Cays is given approximately as 112,527 acres which might be turned to much more profitable uses and yield than obtain at present. With even a quarter of such acreage suitable for the culture of such products as cocoanuts and henequen, it could be covered with plantations of the former numbering 2,813,200 trees with an annual yield of at least 100 nuts (a low average) aggregating 281,320,000, worth, at the current rate per thousand, 1,406,600*l.*, and in a condition clear of the fibrous exterior that yields the coir of commerce, here usually thrown away or associated occasionally with mahogany chips and conch shells to fill up low-lying lots. Now I should explain that such an aggregate of nuts on the basis of 1lb. from 7 nuts or 14 per cent. fibre, should yield 18,000 tons fibre that would realize in the London markets, from 30*l.* to 10*l.* per ton according as it is suited for brushes, mats, or stuffing.

The annual export from the Colony of cocoanuts during the past five years has averaged in number 1,651,933, and in value $32,505.

That delicious fruit, the sapodilla, if picked green, will stand shipment; the tree abounds in this Colony, and, apart from its valuable and durable wood, yields an extract which contributes mainly to the manufacture of what is advertised and so widely used in the United States as "chewing gum."

Then, again, trees yielding the pimento of commerce abound in a wild and unappreciated state, yet this spice was exported from Jamaica to the value of 81,326*l.* in the year 1890–1.

Local prospects and foreign demand seem sufficiently encouraging to justify the establishment in these waters, on a stable and profitable basis, of a sponge industry. Varieties ranging from yellow or "Grass' to "Sheep's Wool" are said to be identical with those of the Bahamas and of Florida, which fetch from 25 cents to $1.20 per lb. in United States currency. Exhibits from British

Honduras at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886 attracted marked attention, and were pronounced as excelling in quality contributions from neighbouring and established areas.

The Bahama industry, which is said to have begun about 1842, has grown to be worth approximately 60,000*l.* per annum. In 1852 it was followed by Florida, and with about the same monetary result. There, some 6,000 spongers of Bahama origin, born and bred to the work, are employed over an area of about 3,000 geographical miles, or 2,208,920 acres. The area of the marine waters of this Colony has been returned as 2,464,000 acres, and while I am not prepared to maintain that our virgin sponge grounds are so large, sufficient proof has been experimentally afforded to justify the conclusion that rich crops are locally available and only wait to be reaped.

The survey for a line of railway to the frontier of the Colony has been entered upon. The result will help materially to guide the decision whether or not this Colony can in the near future undertake such an enterprise, which it is generally acknowledged is essential to open the locked-up Crown Lands to the South and West that have been for generations and are practically a "terra incognita," and likely to remain such without a railway; to encourage further the introduction of capital and labour; to tap and afford means of transport to rich timber areas hitherto, if not unapproachable, at least unworkable from their inaccessibility; to promote in its rich and naturally fertilised valleys the extension of small economic cultures and general agricultural industries; to develop its mineral resources in the only direction in which prospecting has so far looked with favour; and to enable the interior of the Colony to be reached, where the climatic conditions will admit, it is said, of foreign and indigenous settlement.

If any railway converging towards British Honduras could be met by the extension of a local line beyond the Colony in whatever direction may prove practicable, the advantages would be great not only to our friendly and interesting neighbours, but to the Colony itself, and Belize might be re-established as an entrepôt for Southern Mexico and no small portion of the northern part of the Republic of Guatemala.

The American inter-continental line alleged to be contemplated would seem to indicate as its intended course the Western or Pacific slope or base of the central Highlands that represent the back-bone of the isthmus that connects North with South America.

Whilst any such line, if ever constructed, would not fail to be of moment here, the interests and position of the Colony lie so much to the eastward, and along the opposite slope of the great watershed referred to, as to preclude, I fear, the hope of any connection with such inter-continental scheme, so what comes more directly home to be considered is, what can the Colony do for itself and how soon?

Again, the value to the Colony of, say, a branch service along the valley of the Upper Sibun River through and into Crown lands is evident. The Cockscomb Mountains, with their mild summer climate, will prove to be valuable in the future, whether for planting, for summer residences or winter resorts, if not for more; they should be the Simla certainly of this Colony if not of Central America; of varying altitudes that reach 4,000 feet, of easy gradients, only 25 miles west from the coast line, and but 73 miles from Belize by the railway route suggested, with a mean temperature, based upon the observations taken during the expedition to them in April 1888, of 68° in the morning and 75° in the evening as compared with 78° and 80°, the mean at Belize for the same period in the same year, and from observations taken at the same hours.

The Colony is still undeveloped, and it is expedient not only to advertise the Colony's capabilities but also to devise and afford facilities and means to development. The public debt, for the repayment of which the necessary provision is regularly made, approximates but a third of a year's income. It may be said that ample means present themselves for consideration at the proper time for supplementing the ordinary revenue on a basis financially sound enough to justify the undertaking of such projects as now would seem to be generally acknowledged as necessary for initiating the more active opening up, and for assuring the subsequent steady development, of this rich Colony.

Such a conclusion seems reasonably justified when we recognise that the Colony embraces 4,839,408 acres, of which 3,075,566 are alienated, that apart from taxes known as local funds, which are devoted to, and should aim at sufficiently meeting, local purposes, the revenue derived therefrom has averaged annually for the past five years, $11,540 or 1,731*l.*, or about one-half a farthing an acre, although the export value of so much of the out-put from this Colony, free from stamp, income, export, and almost any direct tax, of Nature's spontaneous yield as is represented by its chief timber and dyewood trade, has for the same period averaged $936,936.

In view of the area of the Colony and of the paucity of its population, the importance of effecting an increase to the local labour market is beyond question. How its supply both in the matter of direction and cost, can be systematically effected is entitled to careful consideration.

The question of importing labourers, especially of the agricultural class, is a long-standing and burning one. It remains unsolved and yet is of primary and pressing importance. The comparatively high tariff of the local labour market has not proved sufficiently attractive to initiate spontaneous immigration from the West Indies, even of an annual harvest kind such as obtains between Barbados and Demerara. Owing to the Colony's area and its population (31,471, which it has only reached from 25,635, at which it stood in 1861) there is little hope of future development if it has to depend on the growth of its own people, who are now fully occupied within a very contracted area of activity.

To promote any system of immigration the inducements to labourers and settlers must be greater than obtain at present, and constant, and its first cost must be State-aided out of the General Revenue in such proportion as to be fully recouped beyond doubt in time by the additional revenue that will be derived from the increased consumption of imports.

The construction by means of imported labour of the railway, should circumstances justify the undertaking, and the establishment, if the inducements that offer at both ends prove sufficiently encouraging, of direct steam communication with one of the West Indian islands, where redundancy of population favoured immigration, would appreciably contribute towards solving the question.

Further, it is worthy of consideration whether Kroomen, who are the labour back-bone of some of our West African colonies and possessions, who have been wont for generations in the tropics to supplement our sailors on board of vessels of war or of the mercantile marine, who are accustomed to go away thousands of miles from their homes on engagements of one or two years, so implicit is their confidence of their usage under the British Flag, and of whom this Colony has a very favourable and deserved opinion from the few industrious and exemplary members of that race at present here, may be induced to come across under like circumstances from Africa for a definite period with free passages to and fro and the guarantee of immediate employment on their arrival.

An exceptional system of advances has obtained and obtains in this Colony. It seems to have originated with the object of extending consideration, and very rightly so, to the circumstances and conditions of the working classes so as to enable them, absent as they are for most of the year, on mahogany, logwood, and planting areas, to make provision in anticipation for their own current wants, as also for those of their families who may be left behind in their fixed home When we remember what their savings should be, represented by their accumulated wages, which could be devoted to similar purposes, it seems open to question whether the continuance of the system in the stage it has reached accords with its original object, whether it is further necessary, and, if so, in what modified form, as the time may appear to have arrived when it can be regarded as not altogether in accord with the best interests generally of those whom it was intended originally to serve, as opposed to thrift, and indeed as a premium, in some instances, on extravagance, improvidence, and questionable practices, and further as undermining individual independence.

Whilst on this subject I may refer to the absence from the statute book of any bankruptcy law, the equitable principles underlying which seem to have become of universal acceptance elsewhere in the interests of creditors as well as in legal relief to the debtor whose misfortune may be beyond question. It is of no present advantage to consider whether the general interests of the

Colony have been such as not to have required such protective legislation in the past; whether the circumstances and future of the Colony will not be advantageously served and promoted by a resort to such at no distant date, is worthy of attention and consideration more especially when the fact is remembered that it is, I understand, of no infrequent occurrence for one creditor to get the whole of the debtor's property to the exclusion of all other creditors.

In the general relationship between tenant and landlord, whether Crown or private, the growing tendency of resort to written leases is of sufficient importance to be here noticed and deserves encouragement in the interests of fixity of tenure and of public confidence and credit which are its natural sequence, as well as of the agricultural development of the Colony. Although I should add that advantage seems to have been taken but in very few cases of the provision of the law as regards the record of such documents on which their validity is based. The question of compensation for any unexhausted improvements on expiry of such leases or on determination of holdings is one equally important.

I have, &c.

The Most Hon. (Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles, and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

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No. 94.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 73.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December 1893.



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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
58	Lagos	1891
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,

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[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 73.]

Acting Governor SWEET ESCOTT to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Belize,
September 19, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the British Honduras Blue Book for the year 1892, together with my report thereon.

2. The completion of the Blue Book has been delayed by the absence of an Auditor, and the additional work thus thrown on the Treasury of the rendering of certain financial returns and by the weakness of the staff in the printing office. The last return for the Blue Book was received by me from the printer on the 15th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. SWEET ESCOTT,
Administering the Government.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of the COLONY of BRITISH HONDURAS for the year 1892.

Taxes, Duties, and other sources of Revenue.

A few changes were made in the taxes and duties levied in 1892, as compared with those in force in 1891.

By Ordnance 6 of 1892, the license on dogs was reduced from 3 dollars to 1 dollar a year, and by Ordinance 36 of 1892, navy bread and pilot bread, fish, salted, wet or dry, rice and salt in bulk, which had formerly paid duty, were admitted duty free, whilst revolvers and rifles were added to dutiable articles, and the duty on sparkling and still wines was increased from 1 dollar and 50 cents respectively to 1 dollar 50 cents and 1 dollar.

The light dues on all vessels of 5 tons and upwards entering from seaward are 12½ cents per registered ton, but Her Majesty's

Ships of war and transport ships, ships arriving in distress and neither landing cargo for sale or consumption nor taking on board any additional cargo, and ships carrying mails under contract with the Government of this Colony are exempted from light dues.

For purposes of valuing goods on which duty had to be paid the dollar was taken as worth 3*s*.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The total Revenue for the year was $338,659.98, whilst the total expenditure was $373,719.01, showing an excess of expenditure over Revenue of $35,059.3, but if $11,822.14, the amount spent from balances on Public Works Extraordinary, and $40,072.29 which were expended on the improvements of the Belize town and harbour are deducted ftom the ordinary expenditure, there is a balance of $16,835.40 in favour of Revenue over ordinary expenditure. In 1891 the Revenue amounted to $357,634.01 and the total expenditure to $348,282.98, and thus whilst the Revenue for 1892 was less than that for 1891 by $18,974.3, the total expenditure for 1892 exceeded the total expenditure for 1891 by $25,436.3.

The principal sources of revenue in which there was a falling off in 1892 as compared with 1891 were the Customs receipts, light and wharf dues, licenses to cut timber, and the Post Office. In 1891 the amount collected by the Post Office was $27,909.32, and in 1892 $7,779.61. The large amount received in 1891 was due to an abnormal sale of surcharge stamps.

Assets and Liabilities.

If the general account of the Colony alone is considered, the Assets show an excess of $8,133.20 over Liabilities on the 31st December 1892, the former amounting to $100,123.77, and the latter to $91,990.57, but if the Savings Bank and Public Debt accounts are also taken into consideration, there is an excess of accruing liabilities of $27,403.17 over the total assets of the Colony.

Local Revenue and Expenditure.

By Ordinance No. 32 of 1892 all moneys received on the issue or transfer of liquor licenses are placed to the credit of the different towns in the Colony, namely, Belize, Corozal, Orange Walk, Mullins River, Stann Creek, Monkey River, and Punta Gorda, according to the place where they are received, and, in the case of the Cayo District, to the local fund of that district. Similarly these local funds, with the exception of that of the Cayo, are also augmented by the receipts from the dog tax leviable under Ordinance 6 of 1892. The local fund of any town is appropriated and applied generally in the district within which such town is situated, as the Legislative Council determines.

In Corozal and Orange Walk a property tax and market rents increase the local funds of these two districts, whilst to the revenue of the town of Belize are added, in addition to the property tax and market rates, a fire rate, license on horses, mules, asses, carriages, drays, and drivers, slaughter house and cemetery fees. The funds appropriated to the districts are generally expended on the recommendations of the Local Board of Health and Road Boards, which are annually appointed by the Governor under Chapters 39 and 80 respectively of the Consolidated Laws. On the 31st December 1892, each town had a balance in its favour which was carried over to the year 1893, and was as follows:—

	$	c.
Town of Belize - - - -	6,266	44
Town of Corozal - - - -	3,367	22
Town of Orange Walk - - -	3,664	50
Town of Stann Creek - - -	622	51
Town of Mullins River - - -	692	50
Town of Punta Gorda - - -	378	00
Town of Monkey River - - -	783	00
The Cayo District - - -	600	00

Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 31st of December 1892 comprised a loan of $55,750, raised in 1886 for improvements in the town and harbour of Belize, on which interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum is paid, and a further loan of 9,000*l.* raised for the same purpose under the provisions of Ordinance 1 of 1887. On account of the sinking fund on the first loan the Crown Agents on the 31st of December 1892 held securities amounting to 1,890*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, and on account of the sinking fund of the second loan securities amounting to 844*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* and cash 9*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*

Local Board.

In Belize the Local Boards consist of the Commissioners of Roads, of whom the Governor is President, the Quarantine Board, and the Local Board of Health, whilst in each of the districts there are a Local Board of Health, under the Governor in Council, acting as the Central Board of Health, and a Local Road Board. The Commissioners of the respective districts are the Presidents of these Local Boards.

Defence and Police Force.

The defence of the Colony was in 1888 entrusted to a Constabulary force, which was in course of formation during the

years 1886, 1887, 1888, when the Imperial troops, composed of two companies of the West India regiment, were withdrawn. In 1888 the old police force was also disbanded, and their duties were assigned to the constabulary. This force now consists of an inspector commandant, an inspector, three sub-inspectors, and 170 non-commissioned officers and men, and in 1892 the total cost of the establishment amounted to $65,616.90. The principal barracks and forts are at Belize, Corozal, and Orange Walk, whilst at August Pine Ridge, 18 miles from Orange Walk, there is a Block House used as an out-post station.

Public Works.

In 1892 $54,745.31 were expended on Public Works of all kinds, of which $24,543.09 were disbursed on account of the Belize town and harbour improvements. New Court Houses and Lock-ups were erected at Allpines and Monkey River at a cost of $3,200, whilst $1,474.71 were expended on new Police Stations. The rest of the money voted for Public Works, &c. was principally spent on the maintenance of public buildings and roads, both in Belize and in the country districts.

Legislation.

Thirty-six Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council and received the Governor's assent in 1892, of which the following are, perhaps, the most important :—

No 1 of 1892—"To provide for he establishment of a Public "Botanic Station."

No. 3 of 1892—"To confirm the proceedings of the Legislative "Council in 1891."

In 1891, the Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council tendered their resignation, and their places were filled up by the appointment of four officials, and ten Ordinances were passed by the Council so constituted. These Ordinances it was considered necessary to further legalise.

No. 7 of 1892.—"To make further provision for the prevention "of unqualified persons from acting as Pilots of Ships "exempted by law from compulsory pilotage."

No. 16 of 1892—"To enable the Governor to issue Commis- "sions of Enquiry with special powers.'

No. 18 of 1892.—"To provide for the protection of lights, "buoys, and beacons as well as for the efficiency of the "service."

No. 25 of 1892.—"To amend the law relating to the promotion "of Education."

No. 26 of 1892.—"To institute a General Registry, and "constitute a Registrar General, and for kindred purposes."

No. 27 of 1892.—"To amend the law relating to the Registra- "tion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths."

No 30 of 1892.—"To place the District Courts under the "supervision of the Supreme Court.'

No. 32 of 1892.—"To appropriate the money received under "Chapter 98 of 'The Consolidated Laws' for liquor licenses "to local purposes," and

No. 36 of 1892, "To amend the law relating to the imposition "of customs and excise duties."

Councils.

The Executive Council is composed of the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, the Attorney General, the Inspector Commandant, and three unofficial members appointed by the Queen on the recommendation of the Governor; and the Legislative Council of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, the Attorney General, and five unofficial members appointed by the Queen on the recommendation of the Governor. The unofficial members are therefore in a majority of one.

Civil Establishment and Pension.

There were several changes in the Civil Establishment during the year 1892, of which the following need only be noticed:—

Mr. A. J. K. Young was appointed on the 12th of February Private Secretary to Governor Sir Alfred Moloney, and Major Bayly, who had acted in that capacity from the 29th September 1891 to 11th February 1892, resumed duty as Inspector of the Constabulary.

Mr. McKinney, C.M.G., Treasurer, acted as Colonial Secretary from the 8th June, in the room of Mr. Melville, C.M.G., who was absent from the Colony on leave.

Mr. A. G. Clayton was appointed in June chief clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

Mr. H. C. Usher, District Commissioner of Belize, acted as Treasurer from the 15th February to the 14th May and again from the 8th June to the 3rd December.

From the 30th April to the end of the year Dr. Gahne replaced Dr. Eyles as Colonial Surgeon, the latter having been granted leave of absence.

Dr. Keyt acted as District Surgeon, Corozal, from the 29th of September to the 4th November, and from the 25th November as Inspector of Schools.

Dr. Harrison was transferred from the Cayo to Orange Walk as District Commissioner and District Surgeon in June.

Dr. Gann was appointed to the Cayo in June, and Dr. Adams in October replaced Mr. Travers, transferred to Cyprus, as District Commissioner and District Surgeon of the Toledo District.

Dr. Carpenter acted as District Surgeon at Corozal from the 5th of November.

Captain Kaye was promoted on the 31st August to be Inspector Commandant, vice Captain Kershaw, transferred to Cyprus, and Major Bayly, the senior Sub-Inspector, was promoted to be Inspector.

From the 6th February to the 30th March, Captain Luscombe, Sub-Inspector of the Constabulary, acted as District Commissioner of the Cayo.

Mr. Hoffmeister, the Attorney General, was on leave from the 27th June to the end of the year, and was replaced by Mr. S. G. Woods, Registrar of the Supreme Court, who from the 15th of February to the 23rd of March had acted as District Commissioner, Belize.

Mr. Bristowe, Clerk to the Registrar of the Supreme Court, acted as Registrar from the 27th February to the 23rd of March, as District Commissioner, Toledo, from the 24th March to the 15th October, and as District Commissioner, Belize, from the 23rd November to 3rd December.

Mr. Knollys, the Inspector of Schools, acted as Clerk of Councils from the 19th of January to the 2nd June, and on the 25th of November, proceeded to England on leave of absence.

Consuls.

The following countries are represented by Consuls:—Nicaragua, Germany, United States of America, Spanish Honduras, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, Austria and Hungary, Guatemala, whilst France and Spain are represented by Consular Agents.

Population.

According to the Census of April 1891, the population was 31,471, composed of 16,268 males and 15,203 females. On the day the Census was taken it is estimated that a number of male adults were employed in wood-cutting in the Republic of Honduras and in Yucatan, who with their wives and children might fairly be put down at 1,404 all told, thus bringing up the total population of British Honduras to 32,875.

The total white population, according to the Census, amounted to 400, and the total coloured population to 31,071. For the Belize district, the ratio of population to the square mile is 6·55, in the two northern districts of Corozal and Orange Walk 4·92, in Stann Creek district 1·87, in Toledo district 3·58, and in the Cayo district 3·33, giving a total of 4·16 per square mile for the whole Colony.

The following table gives the numbers employed in agriculture, manufacture, and commerce in the different districts:—

——	Agriculture.	Manufacture.	Commerce.
Belize District - - -	361	56	681
Corozal and Orange Walk District -	946	86	168
Stann Creek District - - -	901	9	97
Toledo District - - -	723	5	60
Cayo District - - - -	222	9	13
Totals - - - -	*3,153	165	1,024

* Of this total some 320 are children.

The total number of births in the Colony in 1892 was 1,219, or 38·73 per 1,000, and the total number of deaths was 1,282, or 40·73 per 1,000.

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

In the six districts of the Colony there were in all 1,567 freeholders, of whom 1,147 belonged to the district of Belize and 2,160 persons paid direct taxes, of whom 1,586 belonged to the same district. Only 27 persons were in receipt of Poor Law relief throughout the Colony, of whom 12 were inmates of the Poor House, Belize, 13 were receiving out-door relief in Belize, and 2 were being relieved at Orange Walk. The absence of poverty is one of the most striking features of the Colony, and where work is so plentiful and well paid, and labour is so scarce, no one need starve for want of work. The number of immigrants during 1892 was 120, whilst the number of emigrants was only 30. The labour question is the great difficulty at the present time, and if only a plentiful and constant supply of labourers from Barbados or some other of the West Indian Colonies could be obtained, the future permanent prosperity of British Honduras would be assured.

Ecclesiastical.

The Church of Rome, the Church of England, the Wesleyan, the Baptist, and the Presbyterian denominations are all represented in the Colony, and, though it is difficult to give an estimate of the number of adherents to these churches and denominations, their relative strength may be gauged from the following table, giving the number of churches or chapels in each district:—

—	Church of Rome.	Wesleyan.	Baptist.	Church of England.	Presbyterian.
Belize - -	5	5	7	2	1
Corozal - -	10	3	—	1	—
Orange Walk -	10	1	3	1	—
Stann Creek -	4	5	—	1	—
Toledo - -	5	2	—	—	—
Cayo - -	10	—	—	—	—
Total - -	44	16	10	5	1

No church or denomination receives any grant from the public funds of the Colony.

Education.

The system of education in the Colony is purely voluntary and primary, there being no Government or Secondary Schools. First class teachers of schools, having an average daily attendance of 20 pupils or upwards, are paid monthly, subject to certain conditions specified in the regulations, 50 cents per head for adults and 25 cents per head for infants, whilst second class teachers receive 25 cents per head for each pupil. First and second class teachers of schools situated outside Belize, Corozal, Orange Walk, and Stann Creek receive $15 per month, with to first class teachers 75 cents and to second class teachers 50 cents for every pupil above 20 on the average number of pupils attending the schools. The amount of Government grants in 1892 to teachers was $13,780.41, against $11,920.44 in 1891, and $11,558.25 in 1890, but in addition $443 were paid as bonuses to teachers the same as in 1891, whilst $125.75 were given as prizes. The Departmental expenses amounted to $2,168.78 making a total cost to the Government of $16,517.94 on an average cost to the Colony for each child educated of $4.88. The voluntary contributions received during the year are estimated at $1,772.46. There were 40 schools in existence in 1892, of

which 14 were under the Church of Rome, 13 under the Wesleyan, and 6 under the Baptist denominations, 5 under the Church of England, and 2 were undenominational. In 1886 and 1887 the number of schools was 28, in 1888, 27, in 1889, 28, in 1890, 35, and in 1891, 34. The average enrolment of pupils in 1892 was 3,383 and the average daily attendance during the year 2,168, the percentage of attendance being 64·0.

The following table gives the average enrolment, average attendance, and percentage of attendance from 1886 to 1891 :—

Year.	Average Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance.
1886 - - -	2,527	1,770	70·05
1887 - - -	2,612	1,794	68·65
1888 - - -	2,580	1,786	69·2
1889 - - -	2,569	1,786	69·63
1890 - - -	2,943	1,976	66·8
1891 - - -	2,994	2,013	67·24

Currency.

The standard of value in the Colony is the Guatemalan dollar, which is the legal tender for sums of any amount. The following coins are also current, the Guatemalan half, quarter, one-tenth, and one-twentieth dollar, the Chilian dollar or sol, half dollar, one-fifth dollar, one-tenth dollar, and one-twentieth dollar, the Peruvian sol, half, one-fifth, one-tenth, and one-twentieth sol, and one cent. piece of British Honduras. There is no paper money of any kind in circulation, and there is no established bank, though the majority of the large commercial houses combine banking business to a limited extent with their wholesale and retail trade.

The constant fluctuation in the value of the Guatemalan dollar exercises a prejudicial and unhealthy influence on the trade of the Colony. An endeavour is made by the Government to neutralise the effect of such fluctuations in its own business by fixing annually the rate at which the dollar is to be accepted for the year, but the rates are often fallacious and do not correspond with the actual value of the dollar. In 1888 this rate was 3*s.* 1*d.*, in 1889, 2*s.* 10*d.*, in 1890, 2*s.* 10*d.*, in 1891, 3*s.* 1*d.*, in 1892, 3*s.*, and in the current year 2*s.* 9*d.*, though the real value of the dollar is at the time of writing only 2*s.* 2*d.* The following tables, which give the direction of the trade of the Colony from 1883 to 1892, show that at the present time more than three quarters of the

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import and export trade of British Honduras is with countries where the currency is based on a gold standard, and yet the Colony has for its medium of exchange debased foreign coins. A strong and almost unanimous appeal has been made to the Imperial Government for a change in the currency to a gold standard, and the result of the representations made is now being anxiously awaited.

Imports.

Years.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Total of direction given.	Total Imports.
	$	$	$	$	$
1883 - -	744,159	1,101	452,735	1,197,995	1,344,868
1884 - -	638,012	4,353	409,833	1,052,198	1,187,690
1885 - -	553,386	1,768	450,335	1,005,489	1,274,282
1886 - -	470,147	7,564	465,355	943,066	1,179,813
1887 - -	477,606	2,869	407,389	887,864	1,097,721
1888 - -	684,677	1,058	572,851	1,258,586	1,479,048
1889 - -	897,201	1,191	664,195	1,562,587	1,863,327
1890 - -	855,221	4,162	667,921	1,527,304	1,829,480
1891 - -	763,249	1,178	743,654	1,508,081	1,853,365
1892 - -	682,174	6,170	793,620	1,481,964	1,741,235

Exports.

Years.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Total of direction given.	Total Exports.
	$	$	$	$	$
1883 - -	887,427	103	253,071	1,140,601	1,514,348
1884 - -	1,025,162	29	264,185	1,289,376	1,587,246
1885 -	708,800	947	258,240	967,987	1,221,401
1886 - -	903,376	1,522	270,347	1,175,245	1,400,234
1887 - -	785,505	4,221	359,873	1,149,599	1,349,709
1888 - -	726,225	7,528	495,955	1,229,708	1,526,115
1889 - -	1,167,737	9,264	560,529	1,737,530	2,155,554
1890 - -	1,108,246	3,627	429,849	1,541,722	1,866,099
1891 - -	1,052,725	1,038	470,881	1,524,644	1,909,930
1892 - -	795,811	—	539,185	1,334,996	1,741,235

Trade of the Colony. Imports and Exports.

The tables noted above give the value of the trade of the Colony during the decade from 1883 to 1892, and though the imports for 1892 show a slight falling off compared with the years 1889, 1890,

and 1891, they compare favourably with the figures obtained for the six years from 1883 to 1888. Similarly the value of the exports in 1892, though lower than that of 1889, 1890 and 1891, is higher than that of any of the six years from 1883 to 1888. The decrease in the value of imports for 1892 compared with 1891, was $96,327, and the decrease in the value of exports $168,695. The following tables include the principal articles, the importation and exportation of which show a decrease in 1892, as compared with the value of the same articles imported or exported in any one or all of the years 1889 to 1891.

Imports.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	$	$	$	$
Clothing - - -	78,409	—	—	52,581
Cotton goods - -	307,338	323,735	289,819	221,547
Earthen and glassware -	21,175	14,349	29,932	9,963
Hardware and cutlery -	55,580	67,111	61,904	49,017
Hides and skins - -	1,913	1,665	—	807
Rubber - - -	5,327	4,715	6,208	385
Silks - - -	28,925	—	27,725	16,574
Wood and wickerware -	6,256	7,518	12,200	1,539
Woollen goods - -	—	—	44,665	30,687
Perfumery - -	16,548	14,243	18,059	12,691
Beef and pork - -	84,203	73,534	72,346	68,762
Beer, porter, cider, and perry - - -	29,577	28,294	23,790	22,704
Gunpowder - -	10,918	8,777	—	4,970
Oils (mineral) - -	15,647	16,620	17,163	13,232
Rice - - -	40,178	—	—	30,222
Soap - - -	—	35,562	—	26,841
Brandy - - -	—	32,297	23,009	19,276
Rum - - -	—	2,561	—	269
Gin - - -	4,817	7,965	8,290	3,660
Whisky - - -	—	—	17,204	14,392
Wines (sparkling) -	4,871	6,981	8,600	3,469
Wines (still) - -	28,801	30,615	25,542	20,227
Ag icultural implements -	1,399	1,490	—	388
Cattle - - -	53,930	—	—	37,311
Books, printed - -	5,409	9,896	—	2,529
Bricks - - -	3,256	6,058	—	262
Ice - - -	3,397	—	—	1,811
Logwood - -	49,642	57,887	45,678	14,625
Vessels - - -	5,599	—	—	1,738

Exports.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	$	$	$	$
Cattle - - -	4,080	630	—	—
Horses and mules -	—	720	3,512	—
Hogs - - -	2,526	1,800	—	—
Beer, porter, cider, and perry - - -	2,233	1,908	2,467	1,198
Boots and shoes - -	4,341	—	1,081	301
Bananas - - -	—	—	236,957	212,882
Bullion and coin -	352,658	—	—	276,543
Cedar - - -	5,454	8,596	8,744	2,610
Cigars - - -	3,784	4,363	3,655	1,418
Clothing - - -	10,296	7,627	—	6,390
Cotton goods - -	80,832	47,379	40,456	24,864
Earthen and glassware -	8,399	4,198	3,222	1,982
Gunpowder - -	5,779	2,407	645	428
Guns and pistols - -	4,231	4,098	3,725	2,872
Hardware and cutlery -	10,945	7,537	7,449	5,078
Hats - - -	6,135	2,297	—	1,430
Logwood - -	807,468	811,705	764,018	616,838
Mahogany - -	—	—	418,356	389,855
Matches - - -	1,710	—	—	674
Perfumery - -	4,406	—	2,461	1,664
Plantains - -	—	16,340	17,039	12,191
Rubber - - -	18,874	23,712	15,832	7,450
Silks - - -	10,014	11,421	13,090	6,824
Brandy - - -	—	6,065	—	3,992
Rum - - -	12,332	5,866	—	3,298
Sugar ( ) - -	58,852	24,356	17,286	5,930
Tortoise shell - -	21,225	22,411	17,822	9,271
Wines (still) - -	12,073	10,271	11,076	7,143
Woollen goods - -	—		7,033	3,506

Note.—When the space opposite an article for any one year has been left blank it is to be understood that the value of the article imported or exported for that year is less than the value of the same article imported or exported in 1892.

The following tables include the principal articles the importation and exportation of which show an increase in 1892, as compared with the value of the same articles imported or exported in any one or all of the years 1889 to 1891.

Imports.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	$	$	$	$
Aerated waters - -	2,081	—	—	5,089
Boots and shoes - -	—	50,977	47,100	53,417
Drugs and chemicals -	16,039	16,988	21,359	22,747
Guns and pistols - -	12,971	8,489	13,540	15,229
Clothing - - -	—	41,176	49,928	52,581
Preserved provisions -	74,571	—	97,802	107,433
Ship chandlery - -	8,001	3,516	5,261	9,527
Woollen goods - -	18,092	24,148	—	30,687
Confectionery - -	4,507	—	6,246	7,219
Plate and jewellery -	—	5,718	9,430	14,153
Bacon and ham - -	18,509	—	16,454	19,549
Bread and biscuits -	5,942	—	—	8,183
Candles (other than tallow) - -	6,563	—	—	8,854
Cheese - - -	11,998	11,797	11,383	13,838
Cigarettes - -	—	—	728	1,490
Coffee - - -	11,278	—	13,359	22,115
Flour - - -	87,414	68,824	89,805	91,890
Lumber (dressed) -	17,312	18,881	16,478	19,827
Lumber (rough) - -	21,662	24,275	19,785	25,442
Soap - - -	23,889	—	24,338	26,841
Brandy - - -	15,626	—	—	19,276
Whisky - - -	9,902	12,904	—	14,392
Horses and mules -	13,328	33,952	36,776	108,459
Turtle - - -	2,588	1,922	3,091	5,074
Machinery - -	14,783	—	—	21,131
Vegetables - -	5,997	—	—	7,167

Exports.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	$	$	$	$
Bananas - - -	177,241	174,376	—	212,882
Iron roofing - -	8,502	7,761	7,889	12,432
Plate and jewellery -	10,633	—	4,602	12,208
Mahogany - -	361,940	361,953	—	389,855
Plantains - -	11,002	—	—	12,191
Sundries - - -	—	16,826	—	25,784
Woollen goods - -	—	1,376	—	3,506

NOTE.—When the space opposite an article for any one year has been left blank, it is to be understood that the value of the article imported or exported for that year exceeds the value of the same article imported or exported in 1892.

Shipping.

There was a slight falling off in the number of sailing vessels entered at ports in the Colony in 1892, as compared with the returns given for 1891, an increase of two in the number of sailing vessels cleared and a considerable decrease in the number of

steamers entered and cleared. The following statement gives the number and tonnage of sailing vessels and steamers entered and cleared for the four years from 1889 to 1892:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1889 - - -	353	29,509	167	139,497
1890 - - -	344	33,533	164	148,673
1891 - - -	312	36,089	191	142,515
1892 - - -	307	33,560	162	110,032

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1889 - - -	306	29,132	172	140,605
1890 - - -	322	30,267	168	151,594
1891 - -	310	36,475	189	139,194
1892 - - -	312	33,303	159	108,429

Of the sailing vessels entered in 1892, 114 were British, with a tonnage of 8,266, 88 were Honduranean, with a tonnage of 1,810, 42 were Norwegian, with a tonnage of 15,495, and 14 were American, with a tonnage of 1,142. Of the sailing vessels cleared in 1892, 117 were British, with a tonnage of 7,382, 87 were Honduranean, with a tonnage of 1,749, 42 were Norwegian, with a tonnage of 15,183, and 12 were American, with a tonnage of 1,012. Of the steamers entered in 1892, 107 were American, with a tonnage of 68,160, 49 were British, with a tonnage of 38,847, and 6 were Norwegian, with a tonnage of 3,025.

Of the steamers cleared in 1892, 106 were American, with a tonnage of 67,503, 47 were British, with a tonnage of 38,018, and 6 were Norwegian, with a tonnage of 2,908.

Agricultural Statistics.

The estimated acreage of the Colony is 4,839,408 acres, of which 45,000 acres are returned as being under cultivation, and 4,155,000

as being uncultivated. The estimated acreage of mahogany and logwood works is 3,065,000 acres. All town and suburban lands belonging to the Crown have to be sold by public auction at an upset price fixed by the Governor in Council, which generally ranges from $1 an acre upwards, and cannot be sold privately, whilst leases of Crown land are also granted by the Governor in Council at rates varying from 25 cents an acre per annum, subject to such conditions as the circumstances of each application may seem to require. In order to encourage immigration and develop the resources of the Colony, the Governor in Council is empowered by law to issue free grants of rural lands to persons who may desire to settle in the Colony, in lots not exceeding 20 acres for each adult above 18 years of age, and 10 acres for each person under that age, subject to such conditions as to improvements or residence as may be imposed.

It is estimated that about 3,075,984 acres of land in the Colony have been granted, and that about 1,763,424 acres remain ungranted.

The average rate of wages for labourers engaged on plantations is $12 a month with rations, or if they are employed by the day or task, $1.25 to $1.50 without rations, whilst labourers who are engaged for cutting mahogany or logwood can earn $16 to $20 a month with rations.

The principal products of the Colony, in addition to mahogany and logwood, are sugar, bananas, rum, Indian corn, coffee, rice, and cocoanuts.

The following table gives the quantity produced from 1889 to 1892. The returns of bananas and cocoa-nuts are given for the first time in 1892 :—

—	Sugar.*	Bananas.	Rum.	Indian Corn.	Coffee.	Rice.	Cocoanuts.
	lbs.	Bunches.	Proof gallons.	Bushels.	lbs.	Bushels.	No.
1889 -	2,390,900	not given	67,966	100,451	931	1,718	not given
1890 -	2,094,536	not given	78,191	107,806	632	1,316	not given
1891 -	1,655,664	not given	52,757	105,840	87	963	not given
1892 -	1,953,762	260,000	68,146	87,640	20,000	625½	2,860,000

* In 1889 and 1890 the heading is "sugar and concrete."

Any statement as to the average prices of articles of use or consumption would be misleading, as the prices depend upon fluctuations in the English and American markets, on the quantity of local stock in hand, and principally on the purchasing power of the local dollar, which varies from month to month and even from week to week. Roughly speaking, the purchasing power of the Guatemalan dollar may be set down as equivalent to the English florin, though in some instances the dollar cannot purchase the equivalent for 2*s.* in England. For example, the average price of tea in 1892 is given as $1.50 per lb., but tea purchased at that price is not equal in flavour or strength to tea sold in England at 2*s.*

Gaols and Prisoners.

There is only one gaol properly so called in the Colony, namely that situated in Belize, the gaols in the five country districts being merely insecure lock-ups for the confinement of persons sentenced in the District Courts to three months' imprisonment and less. The Belize gaol is an admirably managed institution, under the care of a keeper, a chief warder, two warders, and five overseers. The gaol is not on the separate system, as the prisoners are worked in gangs, but the separation at night is complete, unless, as very rarely happens, there are more than 77 prisoners, when not less than three are confined in one cell.

The prisoners engaged on extra-mural labour are principally employed on sanitary work, or on work in connexion with the improvements of the Belize town and harbour. In the gaol are excellent workshops, where the prisoners are taught tailoring, carpentering, bootmaking, and bookbinding. The total cost of the gaol, all charges included, with salaries, was $11,999.81 in 1892, whilst the amount of the prisoners' earnings for the same year was $10,088, made up of inside labour $4,967, and outside labour $5,121.

In 1892 the number of prisoners committed to all the prisons of the Colony for penal imprisonment amounted to 371, against 373 in 1891, 328 in 1890, and 345 in 1889.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during the year 1892 was 2,177, against 2,168 in 1891, 1,842 in 1890, and 1,963 in 1889, whilst the number of persons summarily convicted was, in 1892, 1,484, in 1891, 1,431, in 1890, 1,225, and in 1889, 1,334. In the Supreme Court, out of 63 informations 29 judgments for the Crown were given in 1892, as compared with 33 judgments out of 65 informations in 1891, 34 judgments out of 55 informations in 1890, and 29 judgments out of 63 informations in 1889. There are no indictments, and no Bills, as no grand jury exists. The Attorney-General merely files an information, and, when he thinks proper, enters a nolle prosequi.

Hospitals and Lunatic Asylum.

At the beginning of the year 1892 there were 16 male and 2 female patients in the Belize Hospital, and 313 males and 16 females were admitted during the year; 284 patients were discharged as cured in 1892, and there were 37 deaths. There are five wards in the Belize Hospital, having the following number of beds assigned to them, 14, 1, 1, 8, and 9.

The principal diseases treated during the year were malarial fevers, rheumatism, and disease of the respiratory system. Of the first mentioned disease there were 112 cases, three being of

remittent and 109 of intermittent fever, of the second there were 36 cases, and of the third 33.

The total number of patients admitted to the Lunatic Asylum in 1892 was six, five being males and one female. The daily average number of patients under treatment was 23·08, of whom 17·06 were males and 6·02 females. There were three deaths among male patients during the year.

Hospitals have been established at Corozal and Orange Walk, in both of which men belonging to the Constabulary force as well as general patients are treated, and it is proposed to build hospitals at Punta Gorda and Stann Creek, and a small village hospital at the Cayo, when the finances will admit of the expenditure both extraordinary and current that will be entailed by their construction and maintenance.

Poor House.

At the beginning of the year 1892 there were 11 persons in the Belize Poor House, of whom 8 were males and 3 were females. Five persons were admitted during the year, 1 patient was discharged as cured, and 7 deaths occurred. The Poor House is divided into two wards, one ward of 28 feet in length, 30·4 feet in breadth, and 20 feet in height for males, and the other 22·6 feet in length, 30·4 feet in breadth, and 20 feet in height. The hospital, asylum, and Poor House are most creditable institutions, well organised and well managed, and those responsible for their direction deserve praise.

Meteorological Observations.

According to the observations taken at the station at Belize, the maximum of air temperature was in June, July, and September, and stood at 90° whilst the minimum was 60°, in January. January, November, and December were the three coolest months in the year, though the air temperature recorded was 84°, 86°, and 85° in these months respectively. The average maximum temperature for the 12 months was 87·7, and the average minimum temperature 67·1. The total rainfall for the year was 72·64, and rain fell on 119 days. The lowest rainfall was in April, when a slight shower occurred on only one day, and the greatest rainfall was in October, with a total of 17·72 inches.

Savings Bank.

The Government Savings Bank, Belize, was established in 1846, and the number of depositors on the 31st of December was 370, against 377 in 1891, 380 in 1890, and 408 in 1889. But the amount of deposits during the year increased to $20,859.30 from $17,230.07 in 1891, $19,231.72 in 1890, and $15,042.32 in 1889. The withdrawals during the year, amounting to $14,961.68, were less than the withdrawals in 1891 and 1890, though slightly greater than the withdrawals in 1889, which were $14,321.96 The total amount to the credit of depositors on the 31st of

December 1892 was $48,337.02, or nearly $6,000 more than in any of the three preceding years. The total revenue of the Savings Bank was $1,806.66, and deducting the interest, which is allowed at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, both paid and credited, amounting to $1,110.61, there remained a balance in favour of the Government of $6,965, not taking into account the cost of management. Branches of the Savings Bank have been established in the Corozal, Orange Walk, Toledo, Stann Creek, and the Cayo district, but up to the present time with a small measure of success.

Government House.

Government House, which faces the sea, from which it is distant about 20 yards, is a fair-sized building in a very bad state of repair, standing in about two acres of ground. The house, a one-storey building, with a verandah on three sides, consists of a good sized hall and dining-room, an office almost habitually infested by sand flies and mosquitos, a handsome mahogany staircase leading to two large bedrooms, and a drawing room 60 feet by 20 feet, and three or four small and inconveniently situated rooms, which were made by the back verandah being enclosed and partitioned off. It was at one time in contemplation to pull down the present Government House, which was built in 1814, and to erect a new house on Fort George, but there is no prospect of this scheme being adopted, owing to the heavy outlay and other reasons, and it is now proposed to throughly repair the existing building and outhouses at a cost of some $11,000.

Roads, &c.

There are no railways, canals, telegraphs, or telephones in the Colony, and the roads so called consist almost entirely of paths cut into the forests, and which there is considerable difficulty in keeping clear. The rivers and sea are now the principal highways of communication.

Postal Statistics.

The total revenue of the Post Office for 1892 was $7,778.19, and the total cost, including $11,019.16 for salaries, wages, and all expenses of Postal Service within the Colony, and $20,000 for conveyance of mails beyond the Colony, was $31,019.16, leaving a deficit of $23,240.97. The total number of letters passing through the Post Office, both received and sent, was 120,548, of post-cards 2,030, of newspapers, book packets, samples, and circulars 66,229, and of parcels 659.

(Signed) E. B. SWEET ESCOTT,
Administering the Government.

18th September 1893.

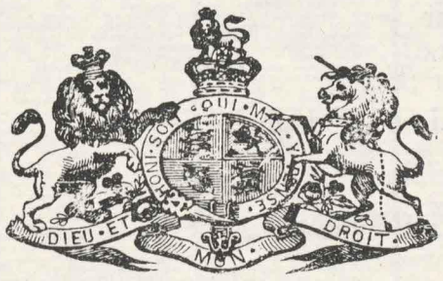
No. 85.

HONG KONG.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 29.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
September 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–35.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891-92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891-92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 85.

HONG KONG.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 29.]

SIR W. ROBINSON to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

Government House, Hong Kong,
June 10, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for Your Lordship's information, the Blue Book for 1892. The following is the Report thereon by the Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary.

REVENUE.

The revenue amounted to $2,236,933·37, an increase of $211,630·86 on that for 1891.

This increase may be explained as follows under various heads, viz. :—

Assessed Taxes, including the Water Account.—Increase $76,771. Of this some $50,000 may be set down to the energy of the Treasury in the middle of the year in the collection of arrears.

Carriage Licences.—Increase $18,100. In 1891, by an Order of the Governor in Council, the monthly fee for a jinricksha license in Victoria was raised from $3 to $6 thus bringing in a total increase of $18,000 in respect of the 500 vehicles permitted in the town.

Opium Monopoly.—Increase $18,000. The previous opium farm, let for three years up to the end of February, 1892, yielded a monthly rental of $35,800 after reduction by consent of the Government, whereas the present farm, let from 1st March, 1892, yields only $28,400 per mensem, so that the revenue from this source during the months of January and February was greater by $14,800 than what will be obtained in the two corresponding months in any year under the present contract.

But by agreement with the Government the last opium farmer was permitted to hold over till 1892 a payment of $50,000 which was due in 1891, thereby making a difference of $100,000 in a

Hong Kong, 1892.

comparative statement of the revenues for these two years from this source.

Other Miscellaneous Receipts.—Increase, $15,619·30, is due to the sale of the Lazaretto on Stonecutters Island to the Military Authorities for $20,000.

Land Sales.—Increase, $70,067·37, is due to a larger sale of land than in 1891, and chiefly to a very large sale that occurred at the end of the year.

The new items and increases under the heads of Steam Launch Licenses, Discharge of Crews and Seamen, Rent of Private Moorings and Buoys, &c., are due to the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, No. 21 of 1891, which came into force on the 1st of January 1892.

The decrease of $21,219·84 under the head "Stamps" is due mainly to reduced speculation in stocks and shares.

From the foregoing considerations it would follow that if allowance be made for the exceptional circumstances affecting the revenue of 1891, the apparent increase of $211,630 will be reduced to a real increase of $41,630, which again is subject to discount owing to land sales having produced more than they can be normally expected to realise.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the year, including that on Public Works Extraordinary, amounted to $2,342,837·26, a decrease of $106,249 on that for 1891, which is caused generally as follows:—

The Military Contribution shows a decrease of $151,996.74 although the rate of exchange was less favourable than in 1891.

But in 1891, besides the usual annual contribution, the payment of 20,000*l.* had to be made to the Military Authorities in respect of arrears for 1890, thus the total payment in the former year was 60,000*l.* as compared with 40,000*l.* last year.

The decrease of $120,650 on Public Works Extraordinary, chiefly arises from the fact that, while $100,000 was paid as the Government contribution to the Praya Reclamation during 1891, only $10,000 was so paid in 1892. On the subject of the expenditure on this work, Your Lordship will be addressed shortly in a separate despatch.

The total decrease under these heads amounts to about $270,000, but on the other hand there were increases in the expenditure of almost every department for the following reasons:—

The payments to the Crown Agents for the debt, pensions, materials and stores, and other charges, &c., were made at a lower rate of exchange. The average rates for the two years 1891 and 1892 were 3/2⅛ and 2/9·97 respectively.

The payment in December of Salaries and other charges properly payable from votes for the year, but hitherto paid out of

the votes for the following year, involved a disbursement of 13 monthly payments in 1892, and an apparent additional expenditure amounting to $78,190.

The excess of Revenue over Ordinary Expenditure amounted to $354,458, but if we deduct the sum of $134,800, which is shown above to have been of an exceptional and non-recurrent character, the excess is reduced to $219,659. If, further, the sum of $67,500, derived from an exceptional land sale at the close of the year be deducted, the excess becomes reduced to $152,158.

It should be observed in this connexion that the Revenue from Land Sales will have to be largely discounted in future years, for the reason that, as the Colony becomes more settled, there is less demand for Crown land and a diminished supply of land available for sale; and that the revenue derived from profits on the sale of subsidiary coins is of a most precarious nature.

The balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st December, was $35,105.87, but in the assets $300,000 is included as value of subsidiary coins in transit which it may take a considerable time to dispose of.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The debt incurred under Ordinance 11 of 1886 still stands at 200,000*l.*, while the sinking fund to be applied for its redemption has increased from 34,053*l.* to 42,758*l.* during the year.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to give effect to the change in name and style of the Surveyor General and Surveyor General's Department.

No. 2.—An Ordinance entitled "The Patent Ordinance, 1892."

No. 3.—An Ordinance to make further provision as to the issue of Night Passes for Chinese.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinances No. 3 of 1860, No. 15 of 1885, and No. 17 of 1891 in relation to the power of the Governor in Council to grant certain licenses.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 15 of 1888, entitled "The Rating Ordinance, 1888," and Ordinance No. 16 of 1890, entitled "The Waterworks Ordinance, 1890."

No. 6.—An Ordinance to amend "The Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1891."

No. 7.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 4 of 1865, relating to Offences against the person.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 19 of 1890, and to amend "The Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1873."

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend "The Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1891."

No. 10.—An Ordinance for the incorporation of the Chairman of the Committee of the Diocesan School and Orphanage.

No. 11.—An Ordinance to provide for the due performance of divine worship and other services in accordance with the rites of the Church of England at St. John's Cathedral Church at Victoria in this Colony and elsewhere, to incorporate a Church body, to vest the said Cathedral in such body and for other purposes in connexion therewith.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Two millions two hundred and fifty-six thousand three hundred and seventy-five dollars to the public service of the year 1893.

No. 13.—An Ordinance to authorise the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of Three hundred and sixty thousand six hundred and eighty-seven dollars and thirty-seven cents to defray the charges of the year 1891.

No. 14.—An Ordinance entitled "The United Kingdom Probates Ordinance, 1892."

No. 15.—An Ordinance to repeal Section 45 of Ordinance No. 8 of 1860, and to amend Schedule A to Ordinance No. 1 of 1883.

Of these the more important were No. 2 and No. 4.

Ordinance No. 2.—The necessity for this Ordinance arose from certain difficulties in the way of granting Letters Patent, and it was thought desirable to consolidate the law at the time of amending it.

Ordinance No. 11 was rendered necessary by the abolition of the Colonial Chaplaincy, and the withdrawal of State aid from the Church of England in the Colony.

In accordance with its provisions the Cathedral Church has been handed over to trustees after being put in a thorough state of repair.

COUNCILS.

During the year Mr. G. T. M. O'Brien assumed his seat on both Councils as Colonial Secretary, Mr. F. A. Cooper's appointment to a seat on both Councils during his tenure of the office of Director of Public Works was confirmed, and Mr. R. M. Rumsey, Harbour Master, was appointed to the seat on the Legislative Council vacant by the retirement of Mr. Deane, late Captain Superintendent of Police.

In January the Legislative Council sustained a loss by the death of the Honourable P. Ryrie, who had been a member for

over 25 years. Mr. E. R. Belilios was appointed to fill the vacancy.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

Mr. G. T. M. O'Brien, C.M.G., arrived in March and assumed the duties of Colonial Secretary, relieving Mr. Goodman, the Attorney General, who had been temporarily discharging them.

Sir J. Russell, C.M.G., Chief Justice, retired on pension, and Mr. F. Clark, Puisne Judge, was promoted to the vacant office, and the Puisne Judgeship was filled by the promotion of Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Mr. A. G. Wise, police magistrate, was subsequently appointed Registrar, and Mr. H. B. Lethbridge was appointed Superintendent of the Gaol. No other permanent changes of importance occurred during the year, but Mr. F. H. May performed the duties of Colonial Treasurer for six months, during the absence on leave of Mr. Mitchell-Innes.

PENSIONS.

The general pension list was reduced by the deaths of H. G. Thomsett, Ho Chuk Shan and Hadrian Raptis, who drew $2,728, $150, and $168 respectively; but it was increased by the addition of Sir J. Russell with a pension of $6,000, G. Rogers, $425, Mrs. Simmons, $154, J. White, $258, and Geo. Rae, $444. The increase in the Police Pension list amounted to about $600 per annum. The whole amount of the pensions paid exceeded that of the previous year by $14,635, which includes increase of loss by exchange, the figures for 1891 and 1892 being $52,541 and $67,086 respectively.

CONSULS.

The following changes in the Consular body took place during 1892, viz.:—

Country.	Former Consul.	New Consul.
Spain	Mr. Ortiz	Mr. Zugasti.
Denmark	Mr. Melbye	Mr. Kramer.
Germany	Mr. Coates	Mr. Von Loeper.
Russia	Mr. Michaelsen	Mr. Jantzen.
Austria	Mr. Poesnecker	Mr. Kramer.
Belgium	Mr. Coxon	Mr. Heemskerk.
Chili	Mr. Forbes	Mr. Shewan.

POPULATION.

The births registered during 1892 numbered 1,843 and the deaths 4,907, being at the rate of 7·96 and 21·18 per 1,000 respectively.

This excess of deaths over births is due to the character of the population, the proportion of males to females being nearly as 3 to 1.

The Registrar General estimates the population of the Colony at the end of the year at—

Males - - - - -	164,808
Females - - - - -	66,854
Total - - -	231,662

an increase of over 10,000 on the number obtained by the Census in 1891.

Of this the Chinese number 221,072, the remainder being Europeans and of other nationalities, including about 2,000 Asiatics other than Chinese.

The number of marriages celebrated under Ordinance 14 of 1875 was 75, but there is no register of marriages of Chinese contracted according to Chinese manners and customs.

EDUCATION.

The number of Government Schools decreased from 36 to 35, and the number of schools aided by Government grants increased from 74 to 87.

In the 35 Government Schools the number of scholars on the roll was 2,622 whilst in the 87 Voluntary Grant-in-Aid schools the number was 5,655. The corresponding numbers in 1891 were 2,540 and 5,132 respectively, showing a total increase of 821 scholars.

The number of girls entered at the Girls' Central School last year amounted to 139, although there were only 93 in regular attendance at the end of the year. It is hoped, however, that when the new Central School for Girls, which is being built at the expense of the Honourable E. R. Belilios, is completed, the attendance will be largely increased. At present the accommodation is too limited for even the small number attending last year. There are abundant indications that the policy of the Government in providing education for girls is greatly appreciated in the Colony.

Besides Government Schools and the schools aided by Government grants there were 99 other schools which are not under the supervision of the Education Department.

The total cost of the Education Department during the year amounted to $87,258·57, which however includes the payment for the month of December, 1891, as above explained. Of this amount Victoria College is responsible for $32,168·43 with an average daily

attendance of 728 scholars, and the special grant of $5,000 to the Building Fund of the Diocesan Home and Orphanage raised the expenditure above what might be taken as the average annual expenditure.

The average expenditure per annum on each scholar at Victoria College, after deduction of fees recovered from the paying scholars, was $27·09 on the daily attendance, whilst the figures for the other schools were as follows:—

	$
Girls' School - - - - -	36·95
Other Departmental Schools - - -	8·82
Grant-in-Aid Schools - - - -	6·39

As it has been estimated that there are 20,000 children in the Colony who do not attend school, efforts are being made to increase the attendance of children of both sexes, especially among the boat people, who have not hitherto been appreciably affected by the efforts for the spread of education. An attendance officer has been appointed, and it is hoped that this will have a good effect in increasing the attendance at the various Government and State aided schools, in which no fees are charged.

Great progress has also been made in the physical training of the scholars. I was present in November last at a parade of over 500 scholars from various leading schools in the Colony, and was much impressed by the manner in which the boys showed how carefully they had been instructed. A public School Cadet Corps has also been recently formed, to which the Military Authorities have been kind enough to grant certain privileges.

SHIPPING.

There are no general statistics available for showing the trade of the Colony beyond those relating to shipping.

In 1892 the total number of vessels arrived at ports in the Colony was 36,470, with a tonnage of 7,104,888 tons, of which 4,396 were steamers, 103 sailing vessels, and 31,971 Chinese junks.

The total tonnage entered and cleared amounted to 14,152,849 as compared with 14,005,698, an increase of 147,151 tons.

Of the steamers which arrived last year 71 per cent. were British, an increase of 5 per cent. over the figures for 1891, showing that British shipping is still holding its own against its rivals.

Emigration slightly improved during the year, the numbers amounting to 52,143, being an increase of 6,981 over the previous year. The number of returned emigrants during 1892 was 97,991.

On the 1st of April, the Gap Rock Lighthouse was completed, and the light exhibited. A cable was also laid between the lighthouse and Hong Kong, which is being used to a considerable extent for the purpose of signalling the approach of vessels to the port.

The erection of a lighthouse on Waglan Island was undertaken by the Imperial Chinese Customs, and has just been completed. These lights will prove of the greatest advantage to vessels arriving from the South and North respectively, and complete the effective lighting of the approaches to Hong Kong.

The revenue collected by the Harbour Master's Department was $181,157·85, an increase of $16,485·93 over that collected in 1891.

Although no statistics taken in the Colony are available to show the trade of the port, yet it may not be out of place to mention that from the returns of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, it has been ascertained that the approximate value of the trade of Hong Kong with China alone for 1891 and 1892 was 126,346,736 Haikwan taels (about 31,000,000*l.* sterling) and 128,973,819 Haikwan taels (about 31,600,000*l.* sterling) respectively, showing an increase in the latter year of 2,627,083 Haikwan taels (about 600,000*l.* sterling).

Gaols, &c.

I am glad to be able to state that the returns from the gaol show the continuance of the decrease, in recent years, of offences, especially of the more serious order.

The total number of committals in 1892 was 5,046 as compared with 5,231 in 1891, which figures were made up as under :—

	1892.	1891.
For debt - - - - -	45	60
For safe custody or want of security -	302	312
For penal imprisonment - - -	4,699	4,859

thus showing a decrease under each head.

Of the total number committed for penal imprisonment there were 4,390 men, 146 women and 163 juveniles, and these committals may further be classified as follows :—

For a first offence - - -	3,724
For a second offence - - -	506
For a third offence - - -	212
For a fourth (or more) offence - -	257
Total - -	4,699

The cost of the gaol for the year was $59,771·40 (including payments for the month of December, 1891), while the profit earned by the industrial labour of the prisoners amounted to $3,122·54.

The daily average number of prisoners confined during the year was 515, and it therefore appears that (after deducting the value of their labour and making allowance for the 13 monthly payments during the year) the average cost of each prisoner to the Colony was nearly 28 cents per diem.

Among serious crimes committed in the Colony in 1892, there were three cases of murder, in one of which the accused was acquitted, and in the others no arrests were made owing to the murderers having escaped into China.

POLICE

The new Police Station at Kennedy Town was occupied by the police on the 31st December.

HOSPITALS.

During the year 1,715 cases were treated in the Civil Hospital exclusive of the cases in the temporary small-pox hospital on the Hygeia, in the lunatic asylums, and women's hospital.

The deaths in hospital amounted to 68 or 3·9 per cent. of the cases treated.

In the lunatic asylums the number admitted was 61, of which 4 died, and the number of cases in the temporary small-pox hospital and on the Hygeia was 13, of which 2 died. The women's hospital had 62 admissions during the year, of which none died.

The hospital still commands the confidence of the paying public, as is shown by the increased demand for accommodation for first class patients, while the Chinese are also beginning to perceive the advantages of the western system of medical treatment.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The following more important Public Works were completed during the years:—

Work.	Total Cost.
	$
Gap Rock Lighthouse - - - - -	189,035
Site for Western Market - - - - -	88,053
Staff quarters, Government Civil Hospital - - -	64,382
Telegraph Cable to Gap Rock - - - -	87,253

The cost of the *Fame*, $45,000, is included in the amount opposite Gap Rock Lighthouse. Efforts were made last year by Govern-

ment to dispose of this vessel, but without result. It is now laid up, pending an opportunity for sale.

Besides these works considerable progress was made with the Central Market, new streets in Kennedy Town, the slaughter house and pig and sheep depôts, and the new water and sewer mains in Victoria.

The water mains are at present complete in accordance with present requirements, but some extension will be necessary in the future. The sum expended on this work is $164,023 out of an estimate of $200,000.

Besides these, numerous other minor works were either completed or advanced, the whole involving a total expenditure during the year of $460,362.

AFFORESTATION.

This work is progressing favourably, 353,663 trees having been placed in permanent positions during the year as compared with 115,081 in the previous year.

Only 2,000 trees were destroyed by fire, and extra precautions have been adopted for the purpose of preventing these fires in future; none of the firs were very much injured by the abnormal frost, but a quantity of indigenous plants, especially those above 800 feet, were killed.

The amount realised by the sale of felled trees was only $492, but the trees are still young, and it is hoped that in the course of a few years the revenue from this source may be slightly increased.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The general condition of the Colony seems at least fairly prosperous; and there is no reason to doubt that the revenue will continue to meet the ordinary expenditure if it is administered with a strict regard to economy, and no new and unforeseen charges occur, while the cost of extraordinary public works will be provided for by the new loan of 200,000*l.* which has been issued during the current year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON.

The Right Hon. the Marquess of Ripon,
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies,
&c. &c. &c.

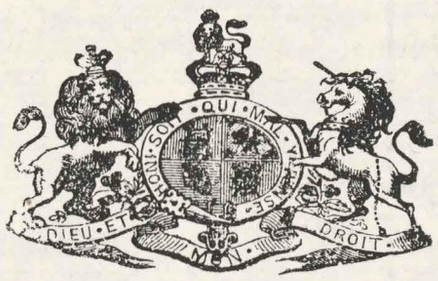
No. 65.

JAMAICA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891-2.

(For Report for 1889-91 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 35.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-15.]

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No.	Colony.	Year.
28	Gambia	1890
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889-91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
56	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 65.

JAMAICA.

(For Report for 1889-91 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 35.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

King's House, Jamaica,
November 21, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year ending 31st March 1892.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK FOR 1891-92.

King's House,
November 21, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book for the year ending 31st March 1892, with précis of the Departmental Reports.

Since the closing of the Jamaica Exhibition on the 2nd May 1891, many applications have been made for information about the Island of Jamaica and its possibilities, and it may not be amiss to lay before your Lordship some general information that may be useful to inquiring capitalists.

The Island of Jamaica contains about 2,683,000 acres, of which about 413,000 are flat, and the remainder hilly. There are 640,000 acres under cultivation, or about one-fourth of the whole; but if we deduct from this the 372,000 acres in common pasture, the amount of actual cultivation is reduced to about 268,000 acres or one-tenth of the total. Along the centre of the Island run ranges of hills attaining an elevation in the west of 1,800 feet and in the east of 7,500.

There is a great variety of soil and climate, and every tropical product, save, possibly, those requiring the steamy swamps of tropical

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JAMAICA. 1891–2.

South America, can be grown, while many of the products of the temperate zone can also be successfully cultivated. Lying, as the Island does, with its longer axis from east to west, the north side, exposed as it is to the constant north-east trade wind, is several degrees cooler than in the south; but all round the Island a strong sea breeze blows during the day, which is replaced at night by a cool land breeze blowing down from the hills. The climate is extremely healthy. The average death-rate of 22·4 per thousand hardly conveys a true impression, the mortality among negro children here, as elsewhere, being very high as compared with the children of the Caucasian races. The climate is particularly suitable for lung complaints and nervous affections. There are several mineral springs of great medicinal value. The temperature of the spring at Bath in St. Thomas-in-the-East, is 126° F., and that of Milk River Bath in Clarendon 92°F. These springs are efficacious for gout, rheumatism, paralysis, &c.

The Jamaica Exhibition of 1891 was conceived and carried out as an advertisement, a stimulus, and an object lesson. It was carried through without any interference on the part of the Government, the proposal being secured by private guarantees which were given to the amount of 27,000*l.* It was opened on the 27th January and closed on the 2nd May; during that time it was visited by 302,831 persons. The full result of the exhibition has not yet been shown and it will afford a measure of the capacity of the people for improvement, but already there are gratifying evidences that the efforts of those who brought about the exhibition have not been in vain. There has been a considerable sale of improved sugar mills for small cultivators. Dairy farming has been started, and machinery imported similar to that exhibited, the beginning of what may be an important industry, as we import annually over 720,000 pounds of butter. Pottery works have been begun, as it was discovered that we have in Jamaica as good clays for the purpose as can be procured in England, and there has been generally excited an inquiring interest in possible additions to the products of the Island that must bear fruit in the near future. While Great Britain, the United States, and Austria, France, Germany, and Italy were represented, the principal exhibitor was Canada, and the Dominion has laid the foundations of increased trade with Jamaica that already begins to show signs of expansion.

The exhibition closed with a net deficit of 28,465*l.* to meet which 19,000*l.* has already been paid up by the guarantors.

The year shows a falling off of 55,653*l.* in the income of the Colony as compared with the previous year, but it must be remembered that the imports of the year 1890–91 were the largest on record. The Collector-General in his report compares the imports with those of the year 1889–90 with a result of 25,600*l.* in favour of the year 1891–92.

Of this diminution of revenue 7,100*l.* was due to the remission of duty demanded by the United States Government under

threat of the imposition of discriminating duties on our sugar and coffee.

It was not expected that the free importation of the low-grade sugar into the United States would benefit the West Indies, and the result has proved that our estimate of the effect was well founded. Probably we shall not feel the full effects of the McKinley Tariff Act for a few years, when the bounty offered for home-grown sugar, almost equal to the cost of production, has increased the area of cultivation of cane and beet in the United States; but the prices of Muscovado and centrifugal sugars have receded rather than advanced in the New York market. Happily it has not been necessary to replace the 30,000*l.* abandoned by the imposition of other duties, and I hope that, with economy, the necessity for doing so may be avoided.

The exports during the year fell off to the extent of 180,718*l.* in respect of Island produce, fruit contracting in value to the extent of 235,375*l.* in consequence of an abundant crop in America, while sugar and rum show an increased value of 75,828*l.*

I hope to see the cultivation of fibre plants extended. The Sisal plants procured from Florida by my direction in 1889, and planted at Hope Gardens, have done so well that there is no doubt of the suitability of soil and climate, and already at least two plantations have been started.

During the year the means of communication have been largely extended. Eight hundred and ninety-seven miles have been added to the main road system, and the money set free has been used for the purpose of improving and extending the parochial roads. Several of the dangerous rivers on the Northside have been bridged, and power has been given by Law 20 of 1892 to raise money for the construction of additional bridges, so that within three years I hope that every river in the Island will be bridged, a boon that can only be appreciated by those who have experienced the perils of travelling in the rainy season, when the rivers are liable to sudden and dangerous floods, from which many lives are annually lost.

It is expected that the extension of the railway to Montego Bay, on the Northside, will be completed within two years. The effect will probably be to largely increase the business of that port.

Legislation.

During the Session of 1892 the Legislative Council passed 32 Laws. The following are the most important:—

Law 1 of 1892—"The Customs Tariff Amendment Law, 1892." This Law was passed to give effect to an arrangement entered into with the United States Government with reference to the McKinley Tariff Act, under which certain articles are admitted free, and the duties on others reduced from 25 to 50 per cent.

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Law 6 of 1892 abolishes the Poll Tax on horsekind and horned stock, it being felt that the proceeds of this tax, which had been imposed to meet a special financial emergency, could now be dispensed with.

Law 7 of 1892 provides for the appointment of an Assistant Resident Magistrate for Kingston. On the reduction by the council of the salary of the Police Magistrate nobody could be found to accept the office at the reduced salary allowed. The duties were performed for some time by the lay justices, but their attendance was necessarily irregular, and as this state of things was productive of considerable inconvenience to the public, it was considered best to appoint a lawyer, who, in addition to the work of the police court should assist the Resident Magistrate generally in his work, which is frequently heavier than one magistrate can well get through.

Law 10 of 1892 enlarges the powers of the visiting officer by providing under certain circumstances for the quarantine of ships after their arrival in port, and after they have been allowed to communicate with the shore, and also for the quarantine of vessels with mud ballast.

Law 12 of 1892 empowers the authorities of a reformatory or industrial school to board out some of the children, and to pay for their board out of the funds applicable to the maintenance of the institution.

Law 13 of 1892 exempts from payment of harbour fees vessels entering any harbour for the purpose of calling for orders only—thus re-enacting an exemption which had been allowed by Law 36 of 1873, but apparently accidentally omitted from Law 24 of 1889.

Law 14 of 1892—"The Cattle Trespass Law, 1888, Amendment Law, 1892"—exonerates the owner of trespassing stock from any action for damages, provided he has adopted all reasonable and proper precautions for the confinement of his stock.

Law 17 of 1892 empowers the Governor to raise a force of coast defence volunteers for special services in connexion with submarine mines, &c., and provides for their being paid when out for training or on active service.

Law 20 of 1892 makes provisions for raising by loan money for the construction of certain bridges in different parts of the Island, the cost of which could not be met from the ordinary general returns of the year.

Law 22 of 1892 amends the Mountain and Rivers Reserves Laws of 1889 and 1890, and enables the Governor in Privy Council from time to time to declare by Proclamation any mountain ridge a mountain reserve, and to revoke any such Proclamation should it be found that its operation seriously affects any man's land.

Law 23 of 1892 gives the Government power to acquire land for the purpose of erecting a lighthouse in the vicinity of Negril Point.

Law 24 of 1892, "The Bankruptcy Laws Further Amendment Law, 1892," is in the main an adaptation of the English Bankruptcy Act, 1883 (46 & 47 Vict. cap. 52).

Law 26 of 1892 makes provision for the granting of pensions or gratuities, under certain conditions, to officers who joined the public service after the passing of Law 34 of 1885, and who do not therefore come under the provisions of that Law. The Law provides that the officers shall contribute at the rate of 2 per cent. on their salaries to a pension fund.

Law 31 of 1892—"The Elementary Education Law, 1892," this Law provides for the further development and improvement of the existing system of giving assistance out of public funds to elementary schools, to meet the cost of which a tax on houses estimated to yield 10,000*l.* a year is imposed. The Law also provides for the establishment of a Board of Education to advise and assist in the general administration of the Law.

Law 32 of 1892—"The Secondary Education Law, 1892," which enables the Governor in Privy Council, on the recommendation of the Board of Education (established by the Elementary Education Law), to establish a school for higher education at the public expense in any district where one may seem to be required, thus affording facilities for such *higher* education which did not exist prior to the passing of this Law.

Finance.

The year commenced with a surplus of 243,987*l.* and the revenue realized was 590,611*l.*, making together a sum of 834,598*l.* The expenditure, including 28,998*l.* for sinking funds and 600*l.* for redemption of debt, amounted to 639,864*l.*, thus leaving at the close of the year a surplus of 194,734*l.*

The appropriated parochial revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, poor relief, sanitary, and other similar local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced in this year 124,154*l.*, being a decrease of 465*l.* on the receipts in 1890–91.

The revenue appropriated to immigration services, including the proceeds of employers' notes for cost of introduction of immigrants, amounted to 31,838*l.*, an increase of 27,433*l.* on the collections in the previous year, which is due to the amount received from planters' notes on the resumption of immigration under Law 14 of 1891. Export duties on sugar and rum having been abolished, a decrease of 2,150*l.* occurs under this head.

JAMAICA, 1891–2.

The usual comparative table, showing the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year under report and those of the previous year, is given below :—

Revenue.	1891–92.	1890–91.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Import duties - - -	319,810	366,662	—	46,852
Export duties - - -	654	6,687	—	6,033
Light dues - - -	2,201	2,377	—	176
Harbour master's fees - -	2,467	2,816	—	349
Rum duties - - -	123,418	136,160	—	12,742
Licenses - - - -	1,263	2,915	—	1,652
Stamps - - - -	19,317	19,286	31	—
Tax on stock - - -	4,753	4,753	—	—
	—	—	31	67,804
Tax revenue -	473,883	541,656	—	67,773
Postal revenue - - -	18,278	17,685	593	—
Telegraph revenue - -	5,687	6,392	—	705
Court fees - - -	8,442	7,578	864	—
Fines and forfeitures - -	4,614	4,639	—	25
Interest on securities, sinking fund	9,955	9,365	590	—
Interest from savings bank after paying depositors - -	3,935	3,896	39	—
Interest other than above - -	7,361	7,927	—	566
Interest, Jamaica railway bonds -	23,548	—	23,545	—
Jamaica railway - - -	—	436	—	436
Reimbursements for expenditure -	24,468	22,405	2,063	—
Miscellaneous - - -	10,442	6,972	3,470	—
	—	—	31,164	1,732
Non-tax revenue -	116,727	87,295	29,432	—
Total general revenue -	590,610	628,951	—	38,341
Specially appropriated Revenue— Main Roads Law, 17 of 1890.				
Land tax - - -	296	—	296	—
Draft H. Stock tax -	978	—	978	—
Holdings tax - - -	14,045	15,743	—	1,698
Spirit licenses - - -	16,694	15,071	1,623	—
	—	—	2,897	1,698
	32,013	30,814	1,199	—

Revenue.	1891–92.	1890–91.	Increase.	Decrease.
Parochial Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Parochial road revenues - -	44,845	50,317	—	5,472
Kingston street tax - -	7,437	6,639	798	—
Parochial municipal revenues -	11,068	10,693	375	—
Parochial general purposes -	1,875	2,016	—	141
Poor rates - - - -	38,748	40,531	—	1,783
Sanitary rates - - -	6,621	8,238	—	1,617
Fire rates - - - -	1,771	1,345	426	—
Gas rates - - - -	2,612	2,598	14	—
Miscellaneous - - -	9,177	2,242	6,935	—
	—	—	8,548	9,013
	124,154	124,619	—	465
Immigration Revenue.				
Export duties - - -	448	2,598	—	2,150
Proceeds of planters' notes :—				
Law 7 of 1878 - -	701	1,427	—	726
Law 14 of 1891 - -	29,673	—	29,673	—
Miscellaneous - - -	52	46	6	—
Interest - - - -	964	334	630	—
	—	—	30,309	2,876
	31,838	4,405	27,433	—
Totals.				
General revenue - - -	590,610	628,951	—	38,340
Specially appropriated revenue -	32,013	30,814	1,199	—
Parochial revenue - -	124,154	124,619	—	465
Immigration revenue - -	31,838	4,405	27,433	—
	—	—	28,632	38,806
Grand total - -	778,615	788,789	—	10,174

The yield of the general revenue shows a net decrease of 38,341*l.* The falling off occurs chiefly in import duties, 46,852*l.*, the effect of the McKinley Act and a smaller importation of British ad valorem goods; in rum duties, 12,742*l.*, owing to a lesser consumption, which is attributed to the falling off in the trade in fruit and logwood having caused less money to circulate among the labouring classes in certain districts; in export duties, 6,033*l.*, caused by the repeal of the Laws under which these duties were collected. The chief items of increase are interest on railway bonds, 23,545*l.*, which is a new item since the sale of the railway; reimbursements for expenditure, 2,063*l.*; and miscellaneous, 3,470*l.*

The revenues specially appropriated towards the main roads, recently undertaken under Law 17 of 1890, yielded 32,013*l.*, against 30,814*l.* in the previous year. This small increase is not attributed to any special cause.

JAMAICA. 1891-2.

Parochial revenues show a falling off of 5,472*l.* in road revenues, caused by the reduction of the land tax and quit rent to the extent of the collections made for the Cadastral Survey tax, which were refunded from this item under Law 8 of 1891; and in poor rates, 1,783*l.*, and sanitary rates 1,617*l.*, due to ordinary fluctuation and the reduction of the rates. The only item which shows any very appreciable increase is miscellaneous, 6,935*l.*

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with 1890–91 :—

Expenditure.	1891–92.	1890–91.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Charges of debt	77,314	76,569	745	—
Pensions	13,227	14,167	—	940
Administrative departments	86,355	36,959	49,396	—
Revenue departments	34,363	33,740	623	—
Postal service	23,862	21,540	2,322	
Telegraph service	6,382	5,554	828	—
Judicial	39,764	38,574	1,190	—
Ecclesiastical	5,562	6,138	—	576
Medical	55,068	49,502	5,566	—
Constabulary	51,390	50,133	1,257	—
Prisons	19,619	18,388	1,231	—
Reformatories	5,336	5,185	151	—
Education	40,790	40,252	538	—
Harbours and pilotage	1,802	1,416	386	—
Industrial schools	634	162	472	—
Military	8,595	8,590	5	—
Coasting service	1,800	1,800	—	—
Steam communication with Halifax	350	783	—	433
Telegraph subsidy	2,000	2,000	—	—
Registration department	3,338	3,466	—	128
Island record office	1,663	1,407	256	—
Registrar of titles department	513	527	—	14
Government printing office	9,386	6,534	2,852	—
Jamaica institute	1,832	3,586	—	1,754
Board of supervision	436	339	97	—
Public plantations and gardens	5,057	6,932	—	1,875
Railway	673	385	288	—
Census, 1891	6,232	84	6,148	—
Miscellaneous	15,245	5,346	9,899	—
Public works	90,478	90,608	—	130
Lighthouse	1,181	1,055	126	—
	—	—	84,376	5,853
Total general expenditure	610,247	531,721	78,526	—
Expenditure from specially appropriated Revenues.				
Main Roads Law 17 of 1890	4,376	—	4,376	—

Expenditure.	1891–92.	1890–91.	Increase.	Decrease.
Parochial Expenditure.				
Parochial roads - - -	59,552	60,148	—	596
Kingston streets - - -	860	892	—	32
Parochial municipal objects -	11,729	9,143	2,586	—
Parochial general purposes -	3,963	3,157	806	—
Relief of poor - - -	43,908	43,221	687	—
Sanitary appropriation - -	6,791	5,524	1,267	—
Fire appropriation, Kingston -	1,863	1,502	361	—
Gas appropriation, Kingston -	2,854	2,702	152	—
	—	—	5,859	628
	131,520	126,289	5,231	—
Immigration Expenditure.				
Immigration department - -	708	1,829	—	1,121
Introduction of immigrants -	33,783	384	33,399	
Return passages - - -	1,149	6,035	—	4,886
Pensions - - - -	—	163	—	163
	—	—	33,399	6,170
Total immigration - -	35,640	8,411	27,229	—
General expenditure - -	610,247	531,721	78,526	—
Expenditure from specially appropriated revenues - -	4,376	—	4,376	—
Parochial expenditure - -	131,520	126,289	5,231	—
Immigration expenditure - -	35,640	8,411	27,229	—
Grand total - -	781,783	664,047	117,736	—

The general expenditure of the Colony shews an increase of 78,526*l.* The following are the chief items of increase:—Administrative departments, 49,396*l.*, for public works and immigration, the latter now being charged as public expenditure under Law 14 of 1891; postal services, 2,322*l.*, for the manufacture of stamps, post cards, and increased payments to the railway company for conveying mails; judicial, 1,100*l.*, for expenses of the Resident Magistrates' Court; medical, 5,566*l.* for the maintenance of coolies, equipment of hospitals, and larger importation of drugs; constabulary, 1,257*l.*, for the importation of valise equipment, handcuff cases, and great coats; prisons, 1,231*l.*, due to the increase of prisoners; printing office, 2,852*l.*, an addition to the staff, and importation of a stereotype machine, and a general reorganization of the office; census, 6,148*l.*, the amount expended during the year for taking the census.

The expenditure of 4,476*l.*, on the main roads recently taken over under Law 17 of 1890, appears for the first time in the accounts for this year: as the work of reconstruction and taking over these roads progresses the expenditure will of course increase.

JAMAICA. 1891-2.

The expenditure from parochial revenues shows an increase of 5,231*l.*, chiefly for expenditure from the surplus fund for parochial municipal objects, 2,586*l.*, and for sanitary purposes, 1,267*l.*

Pensions.

During the year pensions, amounting in all to 1,425*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, were granted under the provisions of the Jamaica Pension Law 34 of 1885, and the resolution of the Legislative Council of the 23rd October 1885, while the pension list was reduced to the extent of 1,591*l.* 17*s.* 0*d.*, by deaths, &c.

Debt.

There were no loans raised during this year; but 2,526*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* of Savings Bank moneys was appropriated for the construction of new telegraph lines under Law 1 of 1879.

600*l.* of debentures under Law 8 of 1871 was paid off from general revenue during the year, and the following amounts were redeemed from the sinking fund provided for the purpose, 5,800*l.* in all, namely: 3,000*l.* under 27 Vict. c. 24.; 1,100*l.* under Law 19 of 1880; 800*l.* under Law 8 and 17 of 1880; 500*l.* under Law 17 of 1884; 300*l.* under Law 12 of 1879; and 100*l.* under 28 Vict., c. 26.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue stood as follows on the 30th September in each of the last 10 years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1882 - - -	1,238,750	0	0
1883 - - -	1,257,916	2	1
1884 - - -	1,243,899	18	9
1885 - - -	1,427,458	14	2
1886 - - -	1,478,790	3	8
1887 - - -	1,491,993	3	9
1888 - - -	1,502,684	9	8
1889 - - -	1,506,883	6	0
1891 - - -	1,458,221	12	7
1892 - - -	1,520,088	4	3

Of the above amount of debt on 31st March last, 821,005*l.* was on account of the railway purchase, reconstruction and extension, and 82,500*l.* on account of the Rio Cobre Canal.

The following are the amounts due for debentures guaranteed by the general revenue, raised on account of the several undertakings specified :—

	£
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks - -	128,200
Kingston markets - - - -	20,000
Kingston gasworks - - - -	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house - - -	10,000

Legislative Council.

After the close of the Session, which had opened on the 24th February, 1891, and ended on the 29th of April, the Legislative Council did not meet again until the 5th November 1891, when a Special Session was convened to consider the modifications necessary in the tariff of the colony in view of the reciprocity clauses of the McKinley Act of the United States.

This Session lasted only two days, and the Council adjourned until the holding of its Annual Session, which took place on the 12th January, 1892, somewhat earlier than usual, in order that the alterations in the tariff consequent on the McKinley Act might be authorized by law before the 1st February, as required by the United States Government.

The Session continued beyond the close of the year under review, and the Council finally adjourned *sine die* on the 8th April 1892, after having met on 32 days.

As I was absent from the island on leave, Major-General Wilson Black, C.B., presided, as senior member, at the Special Session of the Council in November 1891.

Mr. Neale Porter, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, having returned from leave of absence, resumed his seat at the Council at this Session; and Mr. Richmond, Acting Director of Public Works, took his seat as an ex-officio member of the Council in the place of Mr. Bell, Director Public Works, who had been granted leave of absence.

Mr. W. B. Espeut, member for the electoral district of Portland and St. Thomas, was granted leave of absence from the Annual Session of the Council.

Public Works.

The total expenditure under all heads was 236,753*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, of which 152,117*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* was expended on main roads and bridges and parochial roads taken over as main roads, under Law 17 of 1890, and 84,636*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* for salaries, maintenance, &c., of public buildings, lighthouses, irrigation works, waterworks, telegraph construction and maintenance, &c.

The expenditure, excluding that under Law 17 of 1890, and on the bridges in Portland, St. Thomas and St. Mary, was

117,516*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, and the cost of administration and supervision 13,067*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*, or about 12 per cent. on the net cost of the work executed.

The cost of maintenance of main roads and bridges, and of new works thereon, exclusive of the cost of the roads taken over under Law 17 of 1890, was 48,935*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* This expenditure was due to the cost of constructing bridges, culverts, drains, retaining walls, purchasing lands for sites of bridges, and widening the roads, &c.

The average cost of the main roads was 41*l.* per mile, an increase of 2*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* over the cost of the previous year, when the average cost was 38*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* This increase was however justified by the more perfect condition in which the roads were put.

The length of parochial roads taken over under Law 17 of 1890 as main roads, up to the end of the year, was 896¾ miles, but the reconstruction of these was only to a small extent completed during the year.

The expenditure for maintenance and repairs of public buildings amounted to 7,949*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, and was, as usual, for the maintenance and repairs of churches and rectories, courthouses, public offices, prisons, police stations, hospitals and asylums, &c.

The sum of 28,855*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* was expended on new works on public buildings such as courthouses, public offices, prisons, reformatories, and on various other public buildings.

The telegraph lines throughout the Island, 618 miles in extent, were maintained in good order at an average cost of 2*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* per mile per annum, being 1*s.* 4*d.* per mile per annum more than in the previous year. The substitution of iron poles for old wooden ones where necessary is gradually being carried out. Several new lines were also erected.

The lighthouses at Plumb Point, Morant Point, and Folly Point were maintained in good and efficient order.

The Public Works Department, at the request of the parochial authorities, and for the information of the Government, advised and reported on various parochial works.

Lands.

During the year 2,224 acres of land, all in the parish of Portland, were taken possession of under Law 32 of 1888, and proceedings for the forfeiture of 23,100 acres for non-payment of quit rent.

The amount realised by the sale of Government lands was 181*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

Surveys were made for various purposes, and 127 parcels of land for the railway track from Porus to Montego Bay were acquired. The acquisition of this land was attended with much difficulty, and demanded great care and knowledge of the value of land in the districts through which the railway passes.

No land was escheated to the Crown, nor any recovered from squatters during the year.

Rio Cobre Canal.

The cost of management and maintenance of the works for the year was 1,265*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* The average cost for the previous seven years was 1,498*l.* per annum.

The sum of 130*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* was spent on new works and on extending subsidiary channels.

The amount collected during the year was 2,963*l.* 12*s.* 9¾*d.*; the average for the previous seven years was 2,304*l.*, which shows a considerable increase in favour of the collections for the year under review.

The works were maintained in good order, and are being improved by the substitution of concrete for wooden bridges, and in other ways.

Telegraphs.

The gross receipts during the year were 5,767*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, being 639*l.* 18*s.* less than the collections for 1890–91. This falling off is attributable to the depression in the fruit trade and business generally. The expenditure was 6,382*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, or 828*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* more than in the previous year, and is due to increased remuneration to telegraph clerks, the establishment of new stations, and the purchase of stores, etc.

The number of messages sent and received amounted to 102,925, or 9,884 less than in the preceding year.

Nine new stations were established during the year, making a total of 64 stations in operation at the close of the year.

Railway.

The Government Director of the Jamaica Railway Company reports that the gross revenue for the 12 months ended on 31st March 1892, was 71,486*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, and the expenditure 59,963*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, leaving a net revenue of 11,522*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*

The expenditure includes 4,940*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, the value of stores purchased but remaining unissued at the close of the year.

The receipts were made up as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Goods and cattle - - -	38,551	9	11
Passengers - - - -	25,787	6	6
Prince's wharf - - -	6,656	3	9
Miscellaneous - - -	491	8	2
	£71,486	8	4

The number of train miles run amounted to 280,767, and the expenditure and revenue per train mile to 4*s.* 3·25*d.* and 5*s.* 1·11*d.*, respectively.

The number of passengers carried was 314,945, 22,138 of whom were 1st class and the remainder 3rd class. 12,390 passengers travelled with season tickets.

18 miles of the line on the Montego Bay section were completed and opened during the year, thus making 88 miles now actually open to traffic.

Interest was paid out of revenue on First Mortgage Bonds in December 1891, to the extent of 7,050*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*

Botanical.

During the year the Department continued its work in connection with the propagation, sale and distribution of seeds and plants, and the diffusion of information, chiefly by means of printed "Bulletins," which are supplied free of cost to residents in the Island, as to the proper soil, climate, cutivation, &c., for useful plants.

The following figures show the sale and distribution of plants :—

Castleton—sold - - - -	4,266
Hill Garden—sold - - - -	786
Hope Gardens—sold - - -	33,319
Sugar cane tops - - - -	150
Total sold - - -	38,522
Sent to Hope Gardens for distribution -	12,495
Distributed free or in exchange - -	1,583
Total distributed - - -	14,078

A supply of cocoa pods was forwarded to the Hope Industrial School for the purpose of training the boys at that institution in the curing of cocoa : the services of an instructor were engaged to train the boys in the process, and the Director reports the result to have been satisfactory.

Besides the usual work in the up-keep of the gardens, many improvements were effected. At Castleton a walk was formed beside the river, and the former jungle cleared away. At the Hill Garden, a grass from Northern India (*pennisetum trifforum*) which grows to a height of from 3½ to 4 feet, and sends its roots deep into the soil, is being tried as a substitute for guinea grass (which is not so successful in the hills as in the lowlands) and the experiment is said to promise well. Onion seed is also being tried, but only a few varieties show signs of bulbing. The Jamaica plum, a fruit of great promise for export, as it keeps sound for a month, is also cultivated.

The *Hope Garden* is being gradually formed, as means allow, into a geographical garden, with patches of economic plants here and there, and the intervening spaces covered with Bahama grass. The total area is 212 acres, 38 of which have been left in wood. Besides the sugar-canes and other economic plants which have been established for several years, 47 acres, comprising 28,000

plants, have been planted with Sisal hemp. These plants are in good condition, growing freely and suckering.

The *Bhel* fruit which belongs to the orange family, has produced fruit during the year. It is stated to possess valuable medicinal properties.

Several hundreds of ferns have been planted out at the fernery, many improvements have been made at the orchid house, and the stock of ornamental plants in pots has been increased by over 2,000.

King's House.—The care and charge of the roads has been transferred to the Public Works Department.

Special attention is paid at this garden to the cultivation of the grape vine, and arrangements are on foot for demonstrations by the superintendent once a week on the care of this plant, which the Director states to be admirably adapted to the circumstances of many classes of people and the climatic conditions of several parts of the Island.

Kingston Public Garden.—A large number of plants from the exhibition grounds were transferred to this garden, and have added much to the appearance of the borders. Besides, 1,000 ornamental plants were received from the other gardens.

By arrangements with the City Council the garden has been kept open every night until 9 p.m. It is lit with the electric light, and the bands of the West India Regiment and Kingston Militia give regular weekly performances, which are much appreciated by the public.

Herbarium.—The services of Mr. C. Nicholls, who had spent some time in the Herbarium at Kew, were secured for the Department for five months and the specimens of plants arranged classified, and added to, to the entire satisfaction of Mr. Fawcett. Besides this work, Mr. Nicholls made investigations into the microscopic anatomy of the leaf of Sisal hemp, a work which the Director states to be of special importance in estimating the value of machinery for the extraction of the fibre.

The *Library* received several valuable additions during the year.

In March 1892 the authorities of the Botanic Gardens of Harvard University in the United States sent two representatives to make collections and to study at the Botanic Gardens of the Colony.

Education.

The following summary gives the results of the year as compared with the twelve months preceding:—

Year.	Schools on Government List.	Schools Inspected.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in Average Attendance.	Percentage in Average Attendance of Number on Books.	Class of Schools.						Fees.	Grants in aid, including Building Grants.
						I.	II.	III.	E.	F	Not examined.		
1891-92 - - -	877	817	83,731	45,927	54·85	128	329	350	3	7	51	8,803	30,736
1890-91 - - -	836	822	80,199	44,410	55·4	115	339	357	6	5	9	8,363	29,379
Increase on 12 months, 1st April 1891 to 31st March 1892 - - -	41	*5	3,532	1,517	*·55	13	*10	*7	—	—	—	440	—
Calculated increase on 12 months, 1st April 1890 to 31st March 1891, being two-thirds of increase in 18 months	7	22	3,146	615	*·45	7	34	*20	—	—	—	279	—

* Decreases.

The Superintending Inspector of Schools, in comparing the results of the two years, points out that the increases in the number of scholars on books, of first class schools, and in average attendance, are greater in proportion than they were in the preceding year, while in the first two items they are greater, even in proportion to the population, than the average for the past 10 years.

The increase in average attendance of scholars was about 200 less than in the previous decade, the ratio of average attendance to the number on the books having again decreased, though to a less degree than in the year 1890–91. Mr. Capper considers that the fee system has been to some extent the cause of irregular attendance heretofore, for the reason that whenever Monday happened to be a wet day many schools have been compelled to close for the whole of the week, as parents would not pay a week's fees for three days' schooling (four being the ordinary number of school days in the week). When fees have been gradually abolished, under the Elementary Education Law, 31 of 1892, this motive for keeping children at home will be done away with.

Mr. Capper points out that as regards irregularity in attendance at school there is very little difference between any of the West Indian Colonies, that the increase in such irregularity during the year in Jamaica was only one-half per cent., and that in the Southern States of the American Union an apparently more regular attendance is considerably discounted by the fact that there are a far less number of school days in the year there, and by the fact that in proportion to population the number of attendances is also generally less. In making these comparisons, however, the Inspector of Schools points to the irregularity of attendance at our schools as one of the greatest evils we have to contend with.

The decrease in the number of schools inspected is attributed mainly to requests for postponement by managers, and to the difficulty, increasing with the number of schools, of adjusting the Inspectors' arrangements so as to provide for the inspection of postponed schools later on in the year. The appointment of an additional inspector of schools, who assumed his duties in July last, will, it is hoped, greatly remove this difficulty.

It is satisfactory to find that 13 schools of the second class were promoted during the year to the first class, and that the number of schools in these classes continues steadily to increase.

It is interesting to observe that by special efforts a considerable number of Coolie children were brought together at one of the schools in Westmoreland. Very few of the children of immigrants now attend the schools, and the example thus set is worthy of imitation, and would doubtless be successful in other instances.

The following table shows the results of the examinations of teachers and students in training colleges for the year 1891, as

compared with the three preceding years, and evidences steady improvement :—

Year.	Students Passed.	Third year Honours with Bonus.	Full Passes.	Partial Passes.	Failures.
			Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1888	134	7	62	15	23
1889	142	6	62	14	24
1890	149	3	66	13·4	20·6
1891	143	6	73·4	13·3	13·3

The work of the training colleges is stated by Mr. Hicks, the Senior Inspector, to be carefully and faithfully done. Special pains are taken to secure intelligent reading, a defective point in the elementary schools generally.

At the Female Training College, Shortwood, there was a very marked advance in the results of the December examination of students as compared with those of previous years ; there were but four failures, two of second year and two of third year students, among 21 students sent up. Of 30 candidates at the preliminary examination only 13 passed, and of these but three came up to the required standard at the entrance examination, which is the one set for second year pupil teachers of elementary schools. Four candidates were admitted below the pass standard.

An industrial schools for girls, worked in connexion with this training college, was opened in April 1892.

Examinations of pupil teachers, and of pupils at elementary schools who voluntarily presented themselves for examination, were held in July and December, in which latter month these examinations will in future be held, so as to provide for the final examination being taken just before the new students are admitted to the training colleges. The numbers who presented themselves in 1891, as compared with 1890, show an increasing appreciation of the examination among the volunteers. Of a total of 358 pupil teachers examined 282 passed, a percentage of 78 ; and of 404 volunteers examined 136 passed, a percentage of 36.

Mr. Capper was appointed during the year to be Inspector of Industrial Schools under Law 13 of 1891, and the following institutions were placed under his charge :—(1) the Boys Industrial School at Hope. (2) The Girls Industrial School at Shortwood (not opened until April 1st, 1892). These institutions are maintained by the Government. Lastly (3) the Industrial School at Alpha Cottage, maintained by the Roman Catholic body.

Thirty boys, as many as could be accommodated, received instructions at the Hope School at the close of the year,

the boys, besides being taught in the school, practise gardening at the Hope Gardens, and carpentering, and some of the best boys have had plots of land allotted to them.

The industrial school at Alpha Cottage fully maintained its position during the year as one of the best managed institutions in the Island. A boys' school has recently been started, and the girls' school much enlarged. The elementary school is remarkably successful, especially when the mental condition of nearly all the children on admission is considered, whilst needlework, &c. and the cultivation of flowers and vegetables, receives due attention. Mr. Capper considers that this institution should be visited by everyone who desires to see what may be done with the most unpromising material.

Immigration.

During the year ended on 31st December 1891, two Laws were passed by the Legislative Council of the Colony, with the object of promoting the steady supply of labour for estates, by (a), under Law 20 of 1891, instituting a system under which native labourers could enter into yearly contracts with employers, subject to the supervision of the Immigration Department, the labourers, on completing their term of contract satisfactorily to receive each a bonus of 2*l.*, and (b), under that Law and Law 14 of 1891, supplementing such employment of native labour by the introduction of East Indian immigrants, but on more favourable terms for employers than heretofore. These terms are in accordance with the recommendations of the Select Committee of the Council, mentioned in the report on the Blue Book for 1889–91, under "Immigration." It may be mentioned here that all employers of immigrants under the new system, with one exception, have chosen the method of paying 17*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* per immigrant, by instalments spreading over a period of 5 years, instead of the alternative one of a cash payment of 15*l.*

No native labourers avail themselves of the provisions of Law 20 of 1891. The terms on which East Indian immigrants could be obtained under the new system were advertised in July 1890, and applications for 1,842 immigrants were received, but this demand could be satisfied to the extent of only 1,000 immigrants, the Secretary of State's Despatch of the 24th June 1890 having limited the number to be introduced, in the first instance, to that number. In response to a second advertisement in April 1891, 1,112 were applied for, making 2,112 statute adults. Three vessels, the "Erne," "Moy" and "Belgravia," were chartered by the Crown Agents for the Colonies to bring the immigrants, and landed in April, June, and October respectively, 2,135 souls in all, equal to 1,907 adults. Of these 2,135 persons, 32 died during the year, while no births occurred among the immigrants introduced, leaving 2,099 alive on the 31st December 1891. On the same date, the number of East Indians who had served their indentures as immigrants, but had not completed a residence of

10 years in the Colony, was 2,191, while 10,263 had completed such residence, making in all 14,553 East Indians in the Colony on that date.

Of the 2,135 persons landed, 31 had to be sent to the hospital forthwith. Of the 1,055 landed from the "Belgravia," four died shortly after admission to hospital and five persons were rejected as labourers by the examining surgeons, who found them to be suffering from incipient phthisis. The other Coolies were allotted to estates in various parishes, and all the employers have expressed themselves as highly satisfied with them.

The three ships referred to brought to the Colony, in addition to the 2,135 immigrants, 49 repatriated immigrants; 18 of these were from Jamaica, and 15 from St. Lucia.

During the year only 106 Coolies claimed return passages to India, and as it was not found feasible to make arrangements with sister Colonies for the repatriation of so small a number during the year, their repatriation was postponed till 1892, when, by effect of time, a larger number would be able to claim return passages.

It was found that under the new scheme of immigration, the services of the Junior Assistant Inspector could be dispensed with, and that officer was accordingly retired on a pension. The Protector and the one Inspector remaining on the staff now divide the duty of inspection between them, making quarterly visits to the properties employing Coolies, instead of monthly visits as heretofore.

Dr. Comins, the Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta, made a tour of inspection, during the latter part of the year, of the estates in the Island employing immigrants, as part of a mission to ascertain the working of the immigration system in the West Indies.

There were no murders committed during the year by immigrants under the protection of the Department, but three time-expired immigrants, with a Jamaican, were executed on the 15th September 1891, for the murder of four East Indians.

Emigration.

During the year 549 Jamaicans emigrated to, and 1,389 returned from, the places shown below:—

Emigrated to	Carthagena - -	1
„	Colon - - -	525
„	Port Limon - -	24
Returned from	Colon - - -	1,365
„	„ Port Limon - -	24
		1,389

The corresponding numbers during the previous 18 months were 1,088 and 2,726, and during 1889, when work ceased on the Panama Canal, 11,671, and 3,184. The tendency to return rather than emigrate still continues therefore, but in a lessened degree.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank have been as follows for the last 10 years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1881–82	9,543	324,847
1882–83	11,925	325,705
1883–84	13,601	350,546
1884–85	15,511	360,190
1885–86	16,320	363,292
1886–87	17,047	363,481
1887–88	18,510	393,250
1888–89	19,444	408,213
1890–91	21,747	423,011
1891–92	22,824	428,348

showing an increase of 5,337*l.* in the amount of the deposits and of 1,077 in the number of depositors.

In the above amount of deposits are included five deposit accounts for the following public funds :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Immigration return passage fund -	470	12	0
Constabulary reward fund - -	534	1	4
Sinking funds - - - -	2,536	8	2
Constabulary pension fund - -	2	0	2
Smith and Beckford's Charity - -	98	4	0

There were also 254 accounts for trusts, charities, Chancery suits, Administrator General and bankrupt estates, amounting to a total deposit of 30,940*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* The remaining 22,565 accounts, representing 392,344*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, are all ordinary and legitimate savings bank deposits.

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Of the total number of accounts open at the end of the year, 15,216 were for 5*l.* and under, and 1,142 were for over 100*l.*

The assets of the bank at 31st March last were distributed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Consols, 2¾ per cent.				20,404	17	3
Inscribed Stock:—						
Canada, 3 per cent.				27,908	0	8
„ 3½ „						
Cape of Good Hope, 4 per cent.				47,766	6	8
Ceylon, 4 per cent.				14,400	0	0
New South Wales, 3½ per cent.				31,558	11	3
Victoria, 4 per cent.				12,015	0	0
Jamaica, 4 per cent.				9,900	0	0
				163,952	15	10
Debentures:—						
Canada, 4 per cent.	53,990	12	6			
New South Wales, 4 per cent. / New South Wales, 4 per cent.	60,997	10	0			
South Australia, 4 per cent. / South Australia, 4 per cent.	53,531	2	6			
Victoria, 4 per cent. / „ 4½ „	47,308	12	6			
Jamaica, 5 per cent. / „ 4½ „	28,357	5	0			
				244,185	2	6
				408,137	18	4
Cash on deposit in Colonial Bank				20,210	10	3
Total				£428,348	8	7

During the year 3,703 accounts were opened and 2,647 closed, resulting in an increase of 1,077 in the number of accounts open at the end of the year, as compared with the number in the year before.

The number of deposits amounted to 27,321, and withdrawals to 33,785, representing respectively 211,175*l.* and 225,730*l.*

The expenses of management and the interest credited to depositors amounted to 14,529*l.*, while the revenue realised was 15,929*l.*, thus showing a net profit of 1,400*l.* on the year's transactions.

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows:—

	£
1881–82 - - - -	1,321,962
1882–83 - - - -	1,625,411
1883–84 - - - -	1,568,639
1884–85 - - - -	1,487,833
1885–86 - - - -	1,325,603
1886–87 - - - -	1,322,336
1887–88 - - - -	1,695,605
1888–89 - - - -	1,597,600
1890–91 - - - -	2,188,937
1891–92 - - - -	1,759,890

showing a decrease in the year of 429,047*l.*, on comparison with the value of imports in the year 1890–91.

This decrease is of a general character, and although the falling off is large when compared with the previous year, which owing to various influences was much above the average, the result is satisfactory when a comparison is drawn with the results of the preceding years.

The value of goods entered for home consumption amounted to 1,762,999*l.*, a decrease of 390,181*l.*, and is classed thus:—

——	1891–92.	1890–91.
	£	£
Ad valorem goods - - -	716,379	1,001,691
Rated goods - - -	826,462	865 104
Free goods - - - -	220,158	286,385

The larger decreases occur in the following articles, namely:—ale, beer and porter, beef wet salted, bread and corn, butter, cattle neat, clothing, building materials, articles of household furniture, spirits, tobacco, corn; while only rice, fishstuffs, soaps, salt, gunpowder, and horses and mules show an increase.

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The operations of the McKinley Tariff are responsible for a falling off in some items; but, as has already been indicated, the comparison of the results of the year with a period in which abnormally large collections were received has the effect of making these returns appear unsatisfactory, while in reality they are in many instances a decided improvement on preceding years.

The imports were drawn from the several countries in the following proportions:—

	1891–92.	1890–91.
United Kingdom - - -	49·0	56·0
United States - - -	37·2	34·0
Canada - - - -	10·4	7·0
Other countries - - -	3·4	3·0

Showing a decrease in the trade with the United Kingdom, and an increase with that of the United States and Canada. The importations from the latter country have been gradually increasing and this no doubt is to some extent due to the representation of that country at the Jamaica Exhibition.

The following table shows the value of imported articles which were freed from duty in the tariff under Law 11 of 1867, and is given in continuation of similar tables in previous Reports:—

	1881–82.	1882–83.	1883–84.	1884–85.	1885–86.
	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines - - -	10,380	14,199	12,604	9,268	10,704
Mills - - - -	2,203	1,563	2,516	862	257
Other machinery - - -	3,260	5,324	6,618	2,509	3,553
Pans for boiling sugar - -	809	2,025	1,067	—	201
Pipes for fluids - - -	2,600	3,512	4,358	2,365	8,205
Stills - - - -	1,777	1,489	312	72	1,102
Shooks of all sorts - -	12,424	13,724	13,520	11,588	7,149
Staves - - - -	10,645	6,148	10,590	9,052	3,375
Wood hoops - - -	1,932	1,923	1,047	1,107	855
Iron, galvanized - - -	3,595	9,469	8,649	4,758	3,132
„ other manufactures -	14	433	1,109	—	—
Miscellaneous - - -	5,015	7,118	5,242	4,854	4,339
	54,654	66,927	67,632	46,435	42,872

(*continued.*)

——	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-91.	1892-93.
	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines - - -	4,287	4,569	13,389	13,772	10,370
Mills - - - -	564	722	1,756	1,714	2,640
Other machinery - -	2,442	12,569	5,570	20,761	13,624
Pans for boiling sugar - -	435	203	415	254	795
Pipes for fluids - - -	3,472	3,028	2,531	8,395	3,748
Stills - - - -	998	345	277	443	868
Shooks of all sorts - -	13,649	17,974	9,973	4,296	7,863
Staves - - - -	3,822	4,952	983	150	3,606
Wood hoops - - -	978	1,841	797	159	385
Iron, galvanized - - -	3,036	3,147	5,582	8,238	9,868
„ other manufactures -	—	683	659	1,271	857
Miscellaneous - - -	2,608	4,443	4,961	9,037	9,313
	36,291	54,476	46,893	58,490	63,937

showing not much change as compared with last year.

The following table gives the value of the exports in each of the last 10 years :—

Year.	Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1880–81 - -	1,104,407	74,187	1,178,594
1881–82 - -	1,471,917	77,141	1,549,058
1882–83 - -	1,365,868	103,578	1,469,446
1883–84 - -	1,350,900	33,089	1,483,989
1884–85 - -	1,181,203	227,645	1,408,848
1885–86 - -	1,078,315	201,803	1,280,118
1886–87 - -	1,334,465	174,542	1,509,010
1887–88 - -	1,661,601	166,989	1,828,590
1888–89 - -	1,501,660	113,164	1,614,824
1890–91 - -	1,807,084	95,730	1,902,814
1891–92 - -	1,628,777	93,319	1,722,096

This shows a decrease of 178,307*l.* in Island produce, and 2,411*l.* in British, Foreign, and other Colonial produce, on comparison with the previous year.

The falling off occurred chiefly in the banana and orange trade and is attributable to a lack of demand from America owing to a large yield of home fruit there. Other articles, such as cocoa, cocoanuts, pimento, lancewood spars, and logwood have also produced unsatisfactory returns, from lack of demand and unsuitable weather. There has, however, been a decidedly satisfactory result from sugar and rum during the year, the former having exceeded the exports of the previous year by 47,891 cwt. or 19,288*l.* in value, and the latter by 111,335 gallons or 56,640*l.* Coffee, ginger, lime juice, cigars, and beeswax, also exhibit an increase.

The value of the several articles of produce bear the following percentage proportion to the total export value:—

—	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1890–91.	1891–92.
Sugar - - -	19·8	17·3	16·3	13·1	15·6
Rum - - -	22·6	12·2	9·1	11·0	15·7
Coffee - - -	15·4	19·3	19·4	15·7	20·7
Dyewoods - -	14·4	21·2	25·0	21·3	18·7
Fruit - - -	16·2	21·6	20·3	29·4	17·7
Pimento - -	3·4	2·7	3·2	4·5	3·1
Other produce - -	8·0	5·7	6·7	5·0	8·5

The export of the principal staples in each of the last 10 years is shown in the following table:—

—	1881–82.	1882–83.	1883–84.	1884–85.	1885–86.
Sugar - - hhds.	38,392	30,783	29,427	24,986	16,460
Rum - phns.	22,742	20,085	20,364	20,805	14,763
Coffee - - lbs.	7,418,638	9,448,100	4,295,994	9,033,606	6,150,960
Pimento - - lbs.	8,514,517	9,551,630	12,372,863	6,794,078	6,919,087
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	33,409	33,108	46,724	57,533	65,082
Ginger - - lbs.	608,384	836,889	1,359,321	9,379,056	1,193,158
Arrowroot - lbs.	5,116	2,515	3,655	1,008	1,010
Fruit, value - £	124,269	132,962	253,021	181,650	231,522

(*continued.*)

—	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-91.	1891-92.
Sugar - - hhds.	23,043	24,524	16,163	20,994	29,210
Rum - - phns.	24,126	18,684	13,749	15,936	17,049
Coffee - - lbs.	6,337,742	11,084,080	9,485,960	8,476,160	9,739,712
Pimento - - lbs.	7,335,712	7,454,608	5,172,153	10,120,544	7,137,648
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	63,114	103,364	116,247	110,994	87,352
Ginger - - lbs.	1,111,926	1,144,864	1,002,653	1,219,197	1,823,531
Arrowroot - lbs.	1,693	3,092	836	370	1,200
Fruit, value - £	215,583	337,403	303,910	531,726	288,159

The exports from the Colony during the past ten years were distributed among the different countries in the following proportion :—

——	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-91.	1891-92.
United Kingdom	62·5	54·46	43·4	37·2	39·7	38·6	40·2	37·3	32·4	32·7
United States -	17·8	10·07	31·1	42·2	44·0	43·9	43·2	50·2	55·3	50·9
Dominion of Canada	12·9	16·66	13·4	5·4	3·5	1·3	1·6	2·3	2·1	3·5
Other Countries	6·8	6·81	12·1	15·2	12·8	16·2	15·0	10·2	10·2	12·9

The decrease in the amount of our trade to the United States of America is due to the decrease in the export of fruit already referred to, and may, it is hoped, be only temporary.

Agriculture.

The most noticeable agricultural features of the year 1891–92, were the serious check experienced in the hitherto steady development of the fruit trade, and the decided increased in the crops of sugar and output of rum.

The decrease in exportations of fruit is attributable chiefly to the abundant yield of home fruit in America, which circumstance both checked exportation and brought down prices. The cause of the decrease, being an exceptional one, affords no ground for apprehension

The most serious decrease in export of fruit occurred on oranges, the export of which was less than one-half of that in 1890-91, with a loss in value of 33,751*l.* There were also heavy decreases in the output of bananas, 1,344,384 bunches less that in 1890–91, with a loss in value of 181,623*l*; of pimento, 26,633 cwt. less, at a comparative loss in value of 30,342*l.* Of cocoanuts, 698,962 less were exported, and of cocoa, 932 cwt.

The falling of in the output of pimento was due to a want of suitable rains at the proper juncture, and it may be remarked also that there was an exceptionally heavy yield in the previous year. Cocoa also suffered from a want of proper seasons.

Sugar and rum showed a decided advance. Compared with the previous year, the export of sugar was 47,891 cwt. greater, with an enhanced value of 19,288*l.*; while 111,355 more gallons of rum were shipped, at a gain in price of 56,540*l.* This promising state of things still continues, and the stocks held in the several warehouses at and since the close of the year are reported by the Collector General to have been unprecedented.

The steady prices obtained for coffee in the previous year still continued in 1891–92; the increase in quantity exported being 11,246 cwt., and in value obtained 53,040*l.* The acreage was 1,100 over that of 1889–90, and 2,792 over the average of the five preceding years; during which period there has been a decided increase of the cultivation in every parish except St. James.

The exports of ginger during the year went up by 5,387 cwt., and the value by 16,188*l.*, results attributable to better prices and greater demand. The same causes led to an improvement in lime juice exported. An increase on cigars exported of 7,966 lbs. quantity and 3,983*l.* value appears to indicate the development of a taste for Jamaica-made cigars, most of which were, it seems, shipped to order.

The following table shows the relative value in 1891–92 and in 1890–91 of products exported:—

	1891–92.	1890–91.
Sugar - - - - -	15·6	13·1
Rum - - - - - -	15·7	11·0
Coffee - - - - -	20·7	15·7
Dyewoods - - - - -	18·7	21·3
Fruit - - - - -	17·7	29·4
Pimento - - - - -	3·1	4·5
Minor products - - - -	8·5	5·0

Police.

The police force on the 31st of March 1892 consisted of one inspector-general, 14 inspectors, four sub-inspectors, 123 non-commissioned officers, and 573 men, being a total of 715 of all ranks, or 16 below the allowed strength for the year. The strength of the rural police was 927, giving an effective police establishment of 1,642 at the close of the year. 137 men were enlisted during the year, and 119 discharged or dismissed from the force, and 10 died. Pensions and gratuities, amounting to 793*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*, were granted to 45 of the men discharged.

The regular police were distributed during the year as follows: —181 in Kingston, 452 in the 13 other parishes and 63 at the depôt at Spanish Town.

The services rendered by the police as compared with the four preceding years are as follows:—

	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1889–91.	1891–92.
Number of persons arrested on view and on information	4,849	5,334	4,218	9,624	6,558
Number of persons apprehended on warrants	1,729	1,674	1,873	2,499	1,645
Number of search warrants executed	82	75	102	153	116
Number of persons summoned	12,956	14,297	14,018	25,427	17,588
Number of persons subpœnaed	17,832	22,472	21,702	27,540	28,267
Number of seizures under revenue laws	393	465	225	665	325
Number of post-mortems ordered	338	319	388	627	460
Number of prisoners escorted	9,081	8,050	8,796	15,312	9,638

The criminal returns show 13 cases of murder, including three cases of child murder. Of this number six were convicted, one was reduced to manslaughter, five were discharged for want of evidence or prosecution, and one was acquitted. There were 14 cases of manslaughter, of which two were acquitted, four convicted, seven discharged, and the remaining case was undisposed of at the close of the year.

Of other offences against the person the returns show six cases of concealment of birth, the same number as in the two previous years.

There were 541 cases of cutting and wounding, or 93 more than in 1890–91; 317 of these were convicted. Of the five cases of shooting with intent, three were acquitted, one was discharged

for want of evidence and one remained undisposed of at the close of the year. Assaults occasioning grievous bodily harm and common assaults numbered 25 and 5,379 respectively, 18 of the former and 2,413 of the latter were convicted.

Of offences against property committed with violence, burglary, breaking into dwelling-houses and stealing, and breaking into shops, warehouses, counting-houses, and stealing, were the most serious, the figures for the year for these offences being 305, or 77 more than in the period which ended on 31st March 1891.

Ten persons were arrested for highway robbery during the year; of this number nine were discharged and one was convicted.

Greater attention was paid by occupiers of houses, &c. to the duty of securing their places at night, but there is still room for improvement; 44 places were found by the police left open at night, or 162 less than during the preceding period of 18 months.

Offences against property committed without violence show an increase as compared with last year; larceny in dwelling-houses, shops, and warehouses, larceny of ground provisions, simple and prædial larceny being the most prominent.

The crimes of arson, feloniously wounding stock, and wilful damage to property also show an increase.

The returns show 18 cases of forgery and offences against the currency, of which 16 were convicted.

Of the 44 persons arrested for practising obeah, 36 were convicted. This is a most serious offence, and a large number of undiscovered crimes are no doubt due to its practice.

The constabulary rendered the usual service in connexion with the Birds and Fish Protection Sugar Mills, Agricultural Produce Dealers, Spirit License, and Weights and Measures Laws, &c. 829 cases of cruelty to animals were brought up during the year, of which 644 were convicted. 172 owners and drivers of hackney carriages were summoned for infringing the regulations.

Prisons.

The number of prisoners in custody in all the prisons and gaols of the Island on the 31st of March 1892 was 988. A comparison of the numbers in custody on the undernoted dates shows a gradual decrease until 30th September 1888, and a considerable increase thereafter :—

30th September	1886	803
,,	1887	795
,,	1888	749
,,	1889	890
31st March	1891	893
,,	1892	988

Comparing the results in other respects for the year 1891–92 with that of the previous 12 months we find :—

	Year ended 31st March,	
	1892.	1891.
Commitments :—		
To prison	4,259	3,942
To lock-ups	265	—
Total	4,524	—
Re-convictions	1,572	1,536
Deaths :—		
General Penitentiary	14	22
Other prisons	30	34
Total	44	56
Executions	5	1
Daily average number of prisoners in custody	940	879
FINANCIAL.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gross expenditure	18,623 2 11¾	17,292 9 10
„ earnings	5,058 15 4	3,930 2 9½
Leaving a net cost of	13,564 7 7¾	13,362 7 0½
Or, per prisoner	14 8 7	15 4 0½
Estimated value of labour yielding no return	4,510 3 2	5,458 16 8
Estimated value of bricklaying work and stone quarried	4,164 16 8	2,796 19 0½
Washing and repairing (General Penitentiary)	895 11 1	723 13 7

In regard to the commitments the Inspector-General points out that their increase is becoming very marked, and that the prison accommodation throughout the Island for 1,083 prisoners would probably be severely tested, should this increase continue. It may be remarked that 200 extra cells will be provided at the St. Catherine's District Prison, of which 100 have been erected, and that additional cells for females are being provided at the General Penitentiary.

Of the fourteen deaths in the General Penitentiary, three were of persons in an impaired state of health on admission, and two of infants (the offspring of female prisoners). The death-rate at the institution, based on a daily average number of 512 prisoners, was 27·34 per 1,000.

The male prisoners throughout the Colony were, as usual, employed in making bricks, tiles, &c. burning lime and quarrying stone, and the female in washing and repairing clothing for the prisons and other public institutions, as well as for private parties.

Religious services were conducted regularly at the General Penitentiary by the chaplains of the different denominations attached to the institution, as well as in the St. Catherine, Hanover, and Falmouth District Prisons, and the Middlesex and Surrey County Gaol. No regular provision exists for the religious instruction of the prisoners in the short term prisons at Black River and Port Antonio, but they are visited occasionally by the local clergy.

School was regularly held in the General Penitentiary, and in the St. Catherine, Falmouth, and Hanover District Prisons.

Discipline was well maintained in all the prisons, and the prison staff have performed their duties efficiently, although, owing to the disagreeable nature of those duties, there has been considerable difficulty in procuring suitable men, and a great number of resignations and dismissals have occurred.

The mark system continues to work satisfactorily.

Vital Statistics.

The total estimated population on the 31st March 1892 was 649,524, and the mean population for the year under report is estimated at 645,829. It is on these latter figures that the marriage, birth, and death rates are calculated.

The natural increase by excess of births over deaths for the year was 10,033, or 15·6 per 1,000 persons living.

The number of marriages recorded during the year was 3,405, being 5·2 per 1,000 of the population, showing a decrease of 155 marriages as compared with the previous year.

The percentage of illiterate persons among those married was 53·6, being a lower rate than in any previous year.

The births registered numbered 24,744, showing an increase on the preceding year of 237, and giving a rate of 38·3 per 1,000 of the population.

The percentage of illegitimate births was 60·6, a slight increase as compared with the year 1890–91.

The deaths registered were 14,711, or 22·7 per 1,000 of the population, a result slightly below the average for the past 10 years—11,388 or 77·4 per cent. of the deaths were recorded without medical certificate or cause of death being shown.

The total number of births in the Cayman Islands was 166, of deaths 57, and of marriages 21, the proportion to 1,000 of the population being of births 39·4, of deaths 13·6 and of marriages 5·3.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.

&c. &c. &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 54.

LABUAN.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No 18.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.—4]

COLONIAL REPORTS

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
18	Labuan	1890
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
58	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 54.

LABUAN.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 18.]

Acting Governor BEAUFORT to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Sandakan,
British North Borneo,
July 2, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward last year's Blue Book for the Colony of Labuan.

1. On the 23rd April 1891, I was installed Deputy Governor under clause 10 of Her Majesty's Letters Patent of November 6th 1889, His Excellency Governor Creagh proceeding to Europe on one year's leave of absence, since extended by three months.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue, including land sales, collected during the year was $43,092, which shows an increase of $20,525, over that of 1890, and is an increase on the estimated sum of $8,325. The excess over the amount estimated was chiefly made up as follows:—Postage $2,719, General and Police Court fees and fines $866, Reimbursements in aid $1,509, Miscellaneous receipts $5,165, Interest and Commission $330, Harbour Dues $442.

Under the following headings the amount estimated fell short, viz:—Customs $750, Farms $600, Local rates and Water fees $335.

3. The Expenditure amounted to $35,367 or $9,622 more than in 1890, and $2,420 less than the estimated amount. The headings which were in excess of that estimated, were, Resident and Staff $1,349, Treasury and Customs $40, Medical Department $263, Allowances $501, House and Office Furniture $665, Transport $32, Public Works Department $429. Two houses were estimated for, but only one was erected.

Public Works.

4. The road to Coal Point, a distance of eight miles, was put into repair, the increased traffic owing to the coal mines making it a necessity. The Central Borneo Company, Limited, bore a fair percentage of the repairs and upkeep.

A house for the Medical Officer, capable of accommodating three officers in all, was erected. This building being built of round timbers, and with a leaf roof and walls, can only be described as a temporary house. The usual repairs to Government House,

Government Offices, Magistrates' quarters, and Civil Hospital were carried out. The Victoria Jail was practically rebuilt, which afforded increased accommodation. The boat-house was blown down in a squall on 24th June 1891. A small market was erected at Coal Point.

Legislation.

5. Ten Ordinances were passed during the year.

1. Cattle disease, slaughtering houses, and markets.
2. To regulate the acquisition of land for public purposes and for Companies.
3. Fraudulent marking of merchandise.
4. For the formation of Chinese Advisory Board.
5. Banishment in certain cases.
6. For the Protection of natives of India to be employed in the Colony as labourers.
7. Allowing the use of the Postage and Inland Revenue Stamps of North Borneo in Labuan.
8. To amend the law relating to the disposal of Crown Lands.
9. To amend the law relating to stamps.
10. The appointment of Marriage Registrars and their duties in the Colony.

The above have all received Her Majesty's approval, except No. 1, which seems to have been overlooked,* and No. 10, which I have received instructions to alter in some particulars. There is no Legislative Council. The opinion of the Chinese inhabitants is frequently taken through the Chinese Advisory Board constituted under Ordinance No. IV. of 1891.

Several Ordinances not hitherto printed have been printed in the Official Gazette (printed at Sandakan) for general information.

Civil Establishment.

6. Mr. Creagh the Governor, proceeded to Europe, on leave on April 23rd.

Mr. F. G. Callaghan, acting Resident, proceeded to England on five months' leave, from June 25th to December 24th, on urgent private affairs, duties being carried on by Mr. G. L. Davies.

Mr. G. M. O'B. Horsford, was provisionally appointed Police Magistrate, Treasurer, and Harbour Master.

Dr. K. Stewart was appointed Medical Officer in the place of Mr. Apothecary Leach, who died March 22nd.

Pensions.

7. The only change during the year was the death of Jenal, a native pensioner.

---

* Since approved.

Imports and Exports.

8. The imports consist of raw sago, sago flour, coal, and jungle produce from the mainland of British North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak, while the exports are sago, flour, coal, &c. I subjoin a table of imports and exports for the last five years. It should, however, be noted that from 1887 to 1889 the returns were only approximate.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$
1887 - - - -	370,751	96,182
1888 - - - -	357,954	419,546
1889 - - - -	357,282	244,414
1890 - - - -	336,306	207,378
1891 - - - -	363,022	265,107

Shipping.

9. Men-of-war and launches are not included in the following return of shipping for the last five years :—

Out of the total number cleared, 185, including two sailing ships 152 were British, 31 North Borneo, and 2 Sarawak; 79 of them were bound for Singapore, 104 for North Borneo, Palawan, Hong Kong, and Brunei, and 2 for Sarawak. Most of the vessels calling at Labuan are engaged in the North Borneo trade and ply regularly between the ports of that State, Singapore and Hong Kong, making Labuan a port of call. During the year the Colony was visited by four of Her Majesty's ships, two of H.H. the Rajah of Sarawak's, and by one French man-of-war.

Year.	Ships entered.		Ships cleared.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1887 - -	116	31,689	115	31,346
1888 - -	129	37,435	127	37,495
1889 - -	192	63,860	191	62,885
1890 - -	196	57,856	193	56,894
1891 - -	185	61,665	185	62,469

Trade.

10. A large increase is shown under this heading. The returns have been carefully compiled from ships' manifests and not from estimates, as in the years 1887 to 1889. I append a table of trade for the last three years.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$
1889 - - - -	357,282	244,414
1890 - - - -	336,306	207,878
1891 - - - -	363,022	265,107

Population.

11. A census was taken early in the year. I append a table of the result.

—	Europeans.	Eurasians.	Japanese.	Chinese.	Indians.	Africans.	Malays.
Males - -	24	11	—	1,148	87	5	2,256
Females -	1	6	6	209	42	—	2,058
Total -	5	17	6	1,357	129	5	4,314

Total males - - - -	3,531
„ females - - - -	2,322
Total population - - -	5,853

Only 470 or 8·03 per cent. are returned as able to read and write.

Gaols.

12. During the year 140 persons were apprehended. The following tables show the number of cases reported to the police and the number brought to trial during 1891:—

No. of Cases reported.	Offences against Person.	Offences against Property.	Other Offences.
150	28	42	80

Offence.	No. of Persons			
	Discharged.	No. of cases dismissed.	Summarily convicted.	Committed for Trial in superior court.
Offences against person	5	—	27	1
Do. do. property -	12	6	32	4
Other offences - -	10	6	30	7
Total No. of persons summoned or apprehended	27	12	89	12

Table showing the Number of Summary Convictions for Various Offences and the Punishment inflicted.

Punishments.	Total No. of Offences.	Assault and other Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Offences against Revenue, Highway, Health.	Other Offences.
Fine - - -	50	34	10	3	3
Imprisonment in lieu of fine. - -	9	5	—	—	4
Peremptory imprisonment -	35	3	20	1	11
Total - -	94	42	30	4	18

Hospital.

13. The number of persons admitted to hospital during the year was 259 and the daily average 22·9; of these 37 died, 190 were cured, and 10 relieved. The average stay of each patient in hospital was about 10 days.

The prevailing maladies were beri-beri, fever, ulcers, and injuries. The majority of patients were Chinese. The hospital is partly supported by private subscriptions and donations, but chiefly by a Government grant. With the exception of two cases

of small-pox the Colony was free from epidemics, and on the whole the health of the inhabitants was good.

General.

14. The Central Borneo Company, Limited, commenced the construction of a narrow-gauge rail or tram line from Victoria Harbour proceeding in a northerly direction towards Coal Point and the Oil Springs, the total distance being about eight miles. About three and a quarter miles was completed, and the rails partially laid. This Company exported from Coal Point 6,710 tons of coal during the year, which, compared with 2,600 tons in 1890, speaks favourably of its progress. 7,757 tons of coal were imported from Brooketon (Muara).

A school was erected during the year by the Rev. W. H. Elton, chaplain of Sandakan, from private subscriptions, the Government contributing a small annuity. This was blown down on July 9, but has been again built.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. P. BEAUFORT,
Deputy Governor of Labuan
and North Borneo.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

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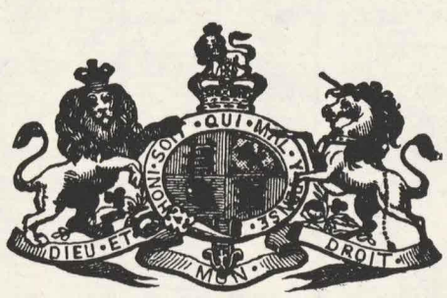
No. 93.

LABUAN.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 54.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-43.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
59	Straits Settlements	1891
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tabago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Bausutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 93.

LABUAN.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 54.]

Governor CREAGH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Governor's Office, Sandakan,
August 18, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward by this mail the Blue Book returns for 1892.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The chief sources of revenue were :—Excise duties on spirits, opium, and tobacco, $23,100; land revenue, $2,810; miscellaneous receipts and reimbursements, $5,197; Post Office and Court receipts, $2,688; market and other rents, $2,832; harbour and customs dues, $1,555; and land sales, $1,478.

3. The total revenue collected during the year was $40,287 or $1,907 less than the estimated amount, and $2,805 less than the total for 1891. The deficit occurred chiefly under customs, rates and taxes, and interest and commission.

4. The total revenue, although somewhate less than that of 1891, is considerably in excess of the amount collected in any previous year since 1876, when it reached $45,262, the highest revenue recorded in the history of the Colony. During the eleven years from 1880 to 1890 the annual revenue has only once exceeded $24,000.

5. The expenditure during 1892 amounted to $32,674, or $1,828 more than the estimated sum, and $1,265 less than the expenditure of 1891. The principal headings of expenditure under establishments were Medical Department $2,854, Police $4,628, Public Works and Land Department $1,825, Resident and Staff, $4,620. The total expenditure exclusive of establishments was $15,959, which includes $6,247 paid annually as pensions.

I 78850. Wt. 10230.

Trade and Shipping.

The noteworthy improvement in trade shown in the subjoined table, although in some degree accounted for by unusually large importations of cloth and rice, is chiefly due to the increased activity of the sago business:—

Year.	Shipping.				Trade.	
	Entered.		Cleared.		Imports.	Exports.
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.		
					$	$
1891 - - -	185	61,665	185	62,469	363,022	265,107
1892 - - -	147	57,697	148	57,758	565,772	365,555

7. Sago, which is the principal article of trade, is imported from the neighbouring coast of North Borneo and converted into flour at local factories for the Singapore market. There are now three sago factories near Victoria owned and worked by Chinese.

8. The value of sago flour exported last year was $205,361, as compared with $67,993 in 1891, and $71,637 in 1890, the industry having been stimulated, as said, by a large and increasing demand for the commodity in Germany and France and by the low rate of exchange.

9. A regular trade is also carried on in gutta, sandal wood, edible birds' nests, camphor, and other forest products, which are imported in native boats from the rivers of North Borneo, Brunei, and Sarawak, on the opposite coast to be exchanged for European cloth and provisions and re-shipped to Singapore.

10. The Export Returns show that this trade has declined from $105,741 in 1891 to $54,361 in 1892, owing chiefly to reduced shipments of rattans, gutta, and birds' nests.

Formerly some of the more distant northern ports contributed materially to the boat trade of the Colony, the value of which was estimated at $248,439 eleven years ago, but since then much of it has been gradually diverted into other channels.

11. Before the cession of North Borneo to the Company Labuan was the most convenient transhipping port for most of the trade of that territory. Native produce of all kinds was regularly imported in small vessels not only from Kudat, Gaya, and Sandakan, but from Darvel Bay, Sulu, and Palawan, to await in Labuan the arrival of the only trading steamer then plying between the Colony and the Straits Settlements.

12. Within the last few years, however, all the above ports have been placed in direct and fairly regular communication with

Singapore. There are now six steamers engaged in this traffic which call at Labuan both ways for coal, provisions, or cargo ; and the native produce from the northern ports, which was formerly stored in the colony and entered as both imports and exports, now passes through without appearing in the returns.

13. The subjoined table, showing a steady increase of shipping since 1882 without any corresponding development of trade, affords evidence of the extent to which the trade and shipping of the colony have been affected by changed conditions of the traffic arising out of the opening of North Borneo ports :—

Year.	Shipping.				Trade.	
	Entered.		Cleared.		Imports.	Exports.
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.		
					$	$
1882 - - -	82	24,416	82	24,378	611,105	640,246
1883 - - -	86	23,408	86	23,408	371,591	393,308
1884 - - -	87	23,959	87	23,959	407,370	411,555
1885 - - -	89	24,116	89	23,763	409,598	386,089
1886 - - -	107	26,139	107	26,139	382,951	403,308
1887 - - -	115	31,380	115	31,346	370,751	417,551
1888 - - -	129	37,435	127	37,495	357,954	419,546
1889 - - -	192	63,860	191	62,885	357,282	244,414
890	6	57,856	193	56,894	336,306	207,378
1891 -	85	61,665	185	62,469	363,022	265,107
1892 - -	147	57,697	148	57,758	535,772	365,555

Agriculture and Mining.

14. The attempts made or encouraged from time to time by successive governors to introduce gambier, oil palm, mulberry, and other industries have not met with success ; and the only agricultural products of the Island are padi, coconuts and fruit, which are consumed locally or sold to passing steamers.

15. The plain in the centre of the island contains about 15,000 acres of fairly good padi land, but very little of it is regularly planted, and so primitive are the methods employed in its cultivation by the Kadayan farmers, who neither plough, irrigate, or manure, that last year their total crop from 300 acres was less than 2,000 bushels.

Coal Mines.

1 . During the year good work has been done by the staff of the Central Borneo Company. Both the railway from the mines to Coal Point and the principal line of about 8½ miles, which is to

connect the colliery with Victoria, were extended and improved, a second shaft was completed and minor works and machinery constructed and put in order.

17. By abandoning all surface operations and working from low-level adits the company expects, when the railway is opened in 1893, to be in a position to supply coal of a superior quality to any hitherto produced in the Colony, at a reasonable price.

18. Mr. Boosie, the company's chief manager, informs me that on 31st December the company had a staff of nine Europeans and 931 Chinese and Malays, employed at Coal Point, Victoria, and on the principal line of railway, which he expects will be opened to traffic next October.

19. It is anticipated that by means of the railway much of the overturning incidental to the present method of transport will be avoided, and that consequently the conveyance of coal to Victoria by rail will be attended with less expense and less damage from breakage than by the present sea route from Coal Point.

Police and Gaols.

20. During 1892 194 persons were apprehended. The following tables show the number of cases reported to the police and the number brought to trial during the year:—

No. of Cases Reported.	Offences against Persons.	Offences against Property.	Other Offences.
204	21	69	114

Offence.	No. of Persons			
	Discharged.	No. of Cases Dismissed.	Summarily Convicted.	Committed to Superior Court.
Against person - -	1	8	12	—
Do. property -	7	6	49	3
Other offences - -	5	16	84	3
Total No. of persons -	13	30	145	6

Table showing the Number of Summary Convictions for Various Offences and the Punishment inflicted.

Punishments.	Total No. of Offences.	Assault and Offences against Person.	Offences against Property.	Other Offences.
Fine - - - -	86	9	12	65
Imprisonment in lieu of fine -	—	—	—	—
Peremptory imprisonment -	53	—	35	18
Whipping - - -	6	4	2	—
Total - - -	145	13	49	83

Hospital.

21. The number of persons admitted to hospital during the year was 220, and the daily average 23·9; of these 21 died, 184 were cured, and 4 relieved.

Public Works.

22. The usual work on the upkeep of roads was carried on during the year, chiefly by convict labour.

The roofs of Government House and the Fish Market had to undergo extensive repairs owing to the ravages of white ants and dry-rot.

A boat-shed was erected at the side of the Fish Market.

Legislation.

23. Two Ordinances were passed during the year :—

Ordinance I.—To enable sentences of imprisonment in North Borneo to be carried into effect in the Colony.

Ordinance II.—To amend Ordinance No. X. of 1891, entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the appointment and duties of Marriage Registrars in the Colony of Labuan."

Civil Establishment.

24. Mr. F. G. Callaghan, Acting Resident, resigned the service on September 20th.

Mr. E. P. Gueritz was appointed to act as Resident on September 20th.

Mr. G. Ormsby was appointed to act as Post and Harbour Master and Superintendent of Police during the absence on leave of Mr. H. Holkar from May 28th.

Mr. C. G. Jansz was appointed Medical Officer in charge of Labuan on the resignation of Dr. K. T. Stewart on July 27th.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. VANDELEUR CREAGH,
Governor of Labuan.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 58.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 32.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1893.

[C.—6857.-8.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
22	Leeward Islands	1890
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	"
51	Leeward Islands	"
52	Grenada	"
53	St. Lucia	"
54	Labuan	"
55	British Guiana	"
56	Zululand	"
57	Mauritius	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 58.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 32.]

Governor CARTER to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Lagos,
August 16, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith six copies of the Blue Book Returns of this Colony for the year 1891, with a report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. T CARTER,
Governor.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c. &c. &c.

From Honourable ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY to Governor G. T. CARTER, C.M.G.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
August 1, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies six copies of the Lagos Blue Book for 1891, together with my report on the returns rendered by the various heads of Departments.

I have to express my thanks to his Honour Chief Justice Smalman Smith for his valuable advice and assistance in the preparation of certain portions of the report, and for the revision of all legal matters dealt with in the Blue Book.

In the preparation of the Blue Book I have met with most cordial assistance from the Departments, and in this office I have to note the careful and willing work of the Chief Clerk, Mr. Henry Carr.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G.,
Governor.

REPORT on the LAGOS BLUE BOOK for 1891.

DUTIES.

Under Ordinance No. 4 of 1891, entitled "An Ordinance to "increase the duties of Customs upon certain kinds of spirits and "upon tobacco," the duty on spirits (not being liqueurs, brandy, or cordials), which had, up to the 3rd March, 1891, been at the

LAGOS. 1891.

rate of sixpence a gallon, was, on that date, raised to eightpence, and the duty on tobacco, under the same Ordinance, was increased from twopence to twopence halfpenny a pound.

The following tables will serve to show the relative positions at the close of the year, as regards Customs dues, of the Colony and its immediate neighbours and commercial competitors, the French Protectorate of Porto Novo, and the German Colony of Togoland.

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

Lagos (English).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in English Money.	Amount of Duty in German Money.	Amount of Duty in French Money.
	s. d.	Mks. Pf.	Fcs. Cts.
On wines, liqueurs, brandy and Cordials of any sort, the Imperial gallon -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On spirits, not being liqueurs, brandy, or cordials, the Imperial gallon	0 8	0 67	0 83·75
Such spirits not exceeding, if imported in wood, the strength of Sykes' Hydrometer and so in proportion of any greater strength.			
On tobacco the pound - - -	0 $2\frac{1}{2}$	0 21	0 26·25
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in bottles, the dozen - - -	0 9	0 75	0 93·75
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in wood, the Imperial gallon - -	0 $4\frac{1}{2}$	0 37	0 46·25
On cigars, the thousand - -	5 0	5 0	6 25
On Cowries, the hundredweight -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On salt, the ton - - -	5 0	5 0	6 25
On gunpowder, the barrel - -	2 0	2 0	2 50
On guns, each - - - -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On pistols, each - - -	0 6	0 50	0 62

On all other goods of every description, not enumerated, an ad valorem duty of 4 per cent. on the value of the goods at the port from which the same shall have been imported.

Table of Exemptions.

All goods imported by the Administrator of Lagos or Governor for his private use.

All goods imported with the sanction of the Governor or Administrator of Lagos for the service of any public Department of the Colony.

Books, newspapers, and printed matter.

Copybooks, drawing books and materials, and other educational materials and apparatus imported with the sanction of the Governor or the Administrator of Lagos for the use of any school or mission.

Mathematical, scientific and surgical instruments.

Photographic apparatus and materials.

British coins and other coins current in the Colony.

Bricks, timber, slates, metal plates or other building or roofing materials imported with the sanction of the Administrator of

Lagos, or the Governor, for any purpose of general or public improvement.

Passengers' luggage.

Packages in which goods are usually imported.

Puncheon shooks, including he iron hoops and rivets or shook required for making them up.

Telegraphic stores, instruments, machinery, plant and gear within the meaning of Ordinance No. 7 of 1891.

Porto Novo (French).

Articles.	Weights and Measures.	Amount of Duty in		In English	
		French Money.	German Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
		Fcs. Cts.	Mks. Pfs.		*s. d.*
Wines, Liqueurs, Brandy, Cordials of any sort	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Geneva :—					
Below 40° (Gay Lussac)	per 8 litres	0 80	0 64	per gallon	0 4·36
From 40° to 57° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
58° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
59° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
60° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
Above 60° („)	„	2 0	1 60	„	0 10·9
Rum :—					
Below 40° („)	per litre.	0 4	0 3·2	„	0 1·74
From 40° to 57° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
58° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
59° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
60° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
Above 60°	„	0 10	0 8	,	0 4·36
Spirits not separately specified*	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Tobacco	per kilog.	0 25	0 20	per lb.	1 0
Beer and Malt Liquors of any sort in Bottles	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Beer and Malt Liquors of any sort in wood	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Cigars	—	†	†	—	
Cowries		Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Salt	per 1,000 kilog.	10 0	8 0	per ton.	
Gunpowder	per 100lbs. (English)	6 25	5 0	per barre per100lbs.	5 0
Guns	each.	1 25	1 0	each.	
Pistols	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Other Articles	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.

* Such spirits not exceeding (if imported in wood) the strength of proof by Sykes' Hydrometer and so in proportion for any greater strength.

† Not separately mentioned in the tariff, probably charged as tobacco

Togo-land (German).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in		
	German Money.	French Money.	English Money.
Geneva, per case to 8 litres = 2 gallons:—	Mks. P.s.	Fcs. Cts.	s. d.
below 40° - - - -	0 64	0 80	0 $7\frac{3}{4}$
from 40° to 60° - - -	0 96	1 20	0 $11\frac{1}{3}$
above 60° - - - -	1 60	2 0	1 $7\frac{1}{4}$
Rum, per litre :—			
Below 40° - - - -	0 $3\frac{2}{10}$	0 4	0 0·384
From 40° to 60° - - -	0 $4\frac{8}{10}$	0 6	0 0·576
Above 60° - - - -	0 8	0 10	0 1
Tobacco, per kilog - - -	0 20	0 25	0 2·4
Gunpowder, per 100 lbs. - -	5 0	6 25	0 5
Guns, each - - - -	1 0	1 25	1 0
Salt, per 1,000 kilos - - -	8 0	10 0	8 0

It may be remarked in this connection that Lagos, in common with the other British Colonies in West Africa, calculates its imports and exports on the base of their actual value at the ports of shipment, and charges duty only on the invoice value, without calculating packing materials, cases, freight, or insurance.

It is proposed that, from the beginning of 1893, a juster valuation should be arrived at, for the purpose of estimating the trade of the Colony by the adoption of a return in the following form :—

(1.) Invoice value - - -
(2.) Freight - - - -
(3.) Insurance - -
(4.) Value of packages - -

The amount of duty on such shipments will, however, be calculated, as before, on the invoice prices.

In order to avoid undue interference with the transit trade of the Colony to Porto Novo, by inland navigation or carriage, all duties that may have been paid on spirits and tobacco in excess of one penny farthing the gallon, and one farthing the pound, are refunded to the transit importers, while all spirits and tobacco warehoused for security of duties or transhipped for exportation, can be sent to Porto Novo or beyond the seas upon payment respectively of one penny farthing the gallon, and a farthing the pound.

The above very moderate charges must be considered to be a reasonable return for the advantages of the Port of Lagos, offering, as it does, the only safe harbour in the neighbourhood, and commanding the entrance to the chain of littoral lagoons and water-ways, which afford safe and rapid means of transport along upwards of 250 miles of surf bound coast.

Licences.

The following details as regards licences, stamps, fees and dues may be of value as showing the obligations of residents in the Colony under those headings.

2. LICENCES.

a. Marriage Licences.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ordinance No. 14 of 1884 ("The Marriage Ordinance, 1884," *see* s. 45, and *cf.* s. 46) requires that for every special marriage licence there be paid the sum of - - - - - -	5	5	0

b. Auctioneer's Licences.

Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1878 ("The Sales by Auction Ordinance, 1878") the following duties are payable upon licences to sell by auction, viz.:—

Upon an auctioneer's licence without privilege of agents for a year - - -	4	0	0
Upon an auctioneer's licence without privilege of agents for half a year - - -	14	10	0
Upon an auctioneer's licence with privilege of agents for a year - - - -	26	10	0
Upon an auctioneer's licence with privilege of agents for half a year - - -	15	12	0
Upon an auctioneer's agent's licence for a year -	2	0	0
Upon an auctioneer's agent's licence for half a year	1	4	0

c. Spirit Licences.

Ordinance No. 7 of 1875 ("The Spirit Licence Ordinance, 1875") makes the following duties payable upon licences to sell spirits in places where the Ordinance applies:—

Upon a wholesale licence for a year - -	25	0	0
„ „ for half a year -	15	0	0
„ retail licence for a store in the Island of Lagos for a year - - -	25	0	0
„ a retail licence for a store in the Island of Lagos for half a year - - -	15	0	0
„ retail licence for a store not in the Island of Lagos for a year - - - -	5	0	0
„ retail licence for a store in the Island of Lagos for half a year - - -	2	10	0

d. Boat and Canoe Licences.

Ordinance No. 3 of 1866 ("An Ordinance for Licensing boats and canoes in the Settlement of Lagos") charges every boat and canoe licence (annual) with a duty of - - - -	0	10	0

LAGOS. 1891.

3. STAMPS.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1888 ("The Stamp Ordinance, 1888"), s. 4, charges the duties specified in the schedule to that Ordinance upon the instruments specified in that schedule.

The schedule specifies the following instruments :—

	£	s.	d.
Admission.			
As a barrister or solicitor under s. 71 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876 - - - -	10	0	0
As a solicitor under s. 73 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876 - - - - -	10	0	0
To act as barrister, solicitor or proctor under s. 74 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876; for each licence - - - - - -	1	0	0
As notary public - - - - -	5	0	0
Agreement.			
Agreement, or memorandum of agreement, under hand only, and not otherwise specifically charged with any duty, whether the same be only evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written instrument - - - -	0	0	6

Exemptions.

1. Agreement or memorandum the matter whereof is not of the value of 5*l.*
2. Agreement or memorandum for the hire of any seaman, canoeman, artisan, labourer, artificer or menial servant.
3. Agreement, letter or memorandum made for or relating to the sale of any goods, wares, or merchandise.

And see Lease.

Appointment.			
Appointment of a new trustee, or appointment, in execution of a power, of any property, or of any use, share or interest in any property, by any instrument not being a will - - - - -	0	10	0
Award.			
1. Where the amount or value of the matter in dispute does not exceed 100*l.*, for every 10*l.* or fractional part of 10*l.* thereof - - - -	0	0	6
2. Where the amount or value exceeds 100*l.* - -	0	10	0

Bill of Exchange (*See s.* 31).	£	*s.*	*d.*
Payable on demand - - - - -	0	0	1
Of any other kind whatsoever, and promissory note of any kind whatsoever, drawn in or out of the Colony and payable or negotiated within the Colony:—			
For any sum exceeding 1*l.* and not exceeding 10*l.*	0	0	1
„ „ 10*l.* „ 25*l.*	0	0	3
„ „ 25*l.* „ 50*l.*	0	0	6
„ „ 50*l.* „ 75*l.*	0	0	9
„ „ 75*l.* „ 100*l.*	0	1	0
And for every additional 25*l.* or part thereof -	0	0	3

Exemptions.

Trade cheques and rest or good notes.

Bill of lading.

Bill of lading of or for any goods, merchandise or effects - - - - - -	0	0	6

Exemption.

The master's copy.

Charter-party.

Charter-party, or any agreement for or relating to the freight or conveyance of any goods or effects on board a ship - - - - -	0	0	6

Conveyance.

Conveyance or transfer on sale of any property. For every 25*l.* and also for every fractional part of 25*l.*, of the amount or value of the consideration for the sale (*see* s. 35) - - - - -	0	2	6
Conveyance or transfer of any property by way of security. *See* Mortgage.			
Conveyance or transfer of any kind not herein-before described - - - - - -	0	10	0

Copy.

Copy or extract (attested or in any manner authenticated) of or from,

1. An instrument chargeable with any duty;
2. An original will, testament or codicil;
3. The probate or probate copy of a will or codicil;
4. Any letters of administration.

In the case of any instrument chargeable with any duty not amounting to 1*s.*, the same duty as such instrument. In any other case - - - -	0	1	0

	£	s.	d.
Copy or extract (certified) of or from any register of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths or burials -	0	0	1

Declaration of Trust.

Declaration of any use or trust of or concerning any property by any writing (not being a deed or will or any instrument chargeable with *ad valorem* duty as a settlement) - - - - -	0	10	0

Deed.

Deed of any kind whatsoever not described in this schedule - - - - - -	0	10	0

Duplicate.

Duplicate or counterpart of any instrument chargeable with duty:—			
Where such duty does not amount to 5*s.*, the same duty as the original instrument;			
In any other case - - - - -	0	5	0

Lease (*or Agreement for a Lease or Letting*).

1. For any definite term less than a year:—			
(*a.*) Where the rent for such term does not exceed 25*l.* - - - - - -	0	0	6
(*b.*) Where the rent for such term exceeds 25*l* -	0	2	6
2. For any other definite term, or for any indefinite term:—			
For each 25*l.* and also for every fractional part of 25*l.* of the rent.			
If the term is definite and does not exceed 7 years	0	2	6
If the term is definite and does not exceed 21 years	0	5	0
If the term exceeds 21 years or is indefinite -	0	10	0
3. Of any other kind whatsoever not herein-before described - - - - - -	0	10	0
And *See* ss. 38, 39 and 40.			

Mortgage, Bond, Debenture or Covenant.

1. Being the only or principal security for the payment or repayment of money, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the amount secured -	0	2	6
2. Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional or substituted security, or by way of further assurance, for the above-mentioned purpose, where the principal			

	£	s	d.
or primary security is duly stamped, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the amount secured - - - - -	0	0	6
3. Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture or covenant, or of anything secured by any such instrument, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the amount transferred, assigned or disposed of - - - -	0	0	6
And also, where any further money is added to the money already secured, the same duty as upon a principal security for such further money.			
4. Reconveyance, release, discharge or surrender of any such security as aforesaid, or of the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the total amount or value of the money at any time secured -	0	0	6

Exemptions.

1. Bond given by a public officer for the due execution of his duty.
2. Bond on which a fee is chargeable under the provisions of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876.
3. Bond given in pursuance of any Ordinance upon or with relation to the receiving or obtaining, or for entitling any person to receive or obtain, any drawback or any duty or duties, or part of any duty or duties, of customs, for or in respect of any goods, wares or merchandise exported or shipped to be exported from the Colony, or upon or with relation to the obtaining of any certificate for entitling any person to receive or obtain any such drawback as aforesaid.

Notarial Act.

Notarial act of any kind whatsoever - - -	0	1	0

Power of Attorney.

Power of attorney or other instrument in the nature thereof - - - - - -	0	10	0

Exemption.

Appointment of a proxy to vote at any meeting.

Receipt.

Receipt given for or upon the payment of money amounting to 2*l.* or upwards - - -	0	0	1

Exemptions.

1. Receipt given for or upon the payment of any duties or taxes or of money to or for the use of the Colonial Government.
2. The duplicate of any receipt required by the regulations of the Treasury Department to be given in duplicate, the original receipt being duly stamped.
3. Receipt given by any person, or his representatives for or on account of any salary, wages, pay or pension due from the Colonial Government.
4. Receipt endorsed or otherwise written upon or contained in any instrument liable to stamp duty and duly stamped, acknowledging the receipt of the consideration money therein expressed, or the receipt of any principal money, interest or annuity thereby secured or therein mentioned.
5. Receipt given for drawback or bounty upon the exportation of any goods or merchandise from the Colony.
6. Receipt given for the return of any duties of customs upon certificates of over-entry.

General Exemptions from all Stamp Duties.

1. Transfers of shares in the Government or Parliamentary stocks or funds of Great Britain.
2. Instruments for the sale, transfer or other disposition either absolutely, or by way of mortgage, or otherwise, of any ship or vessel, or any part, interest, share or property of or in any ship or vessel.
3. All instruments on which the duty would be payable by any Government Department.

II. FEES AND DUES.

1. SUPREME COURT.

Court fees are regulated by an order of the 26th of September 1889, which is as follows:—

In Civil Matters.

Commencement of Suits.

Where the value of the property, claim or demand:—

	On Summons.			On Hearing.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
does not exceed 10*l.* - -	0	2	6	0	2	6
exceeds 10*l.* and does not exceed 25*l.* -	0	5	0	0	5	0
„ 25*l.* „ 50*l.* -	0	5	0	0	10	0
„ 50*l.* „ 100*l.* -	0	10	0	0	15	0
„ 100*l.* „ 200*l.* -	1	0	0	1	10	0

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
exceeds 200*l.* and does not exceed 300*l.* -	1	10	0	2	5	0
„ 300*l.* „ 400*l.* -	2	0	0	3	0	0
„ 400*l.* „ 500*l.* -	2	10	0	3	15	0
„ 500*l.* „ 600*l.* -	3	0	0	4	10	0
„ 600*l.* „ 700*l.* -	3	10	0	5	5	0
„ 700*l.* „ 800*l.* -	4	0	0	6	0	0
„ 800*l.* „ 900*l.* -	4	10	0	6	15	0
„ 900*l.* „ 1,000*l.* -	5	0	0	7	10	0
is 1,000*l.* or upwards - - -	5	10	0	10	0	0

Note.—In all cases the value of the property involved and the amount of damages claimed must be stated in the writ of summons.

The value of any land shall not be taken as less than 50*l.* except by the direction of the Court.

On a petition or claim for judicial relief or assistance, but not the recovery of money or property - -	1	10	0
On filing every counter-claim the hearing fee on the amount thereof.			
Where an injunction is claimed in addition to damages, an extra hearing fee (in addition to that chargeable under the above scale) of - - - -	0	15	0
On filing any petition or claim to be heard before the Court, not otherwise provided for (to include hearing fee) - - - - - -	0	10	0
On summons for the administration of the property of a deceased person, to include hearing - -	0	10	0
On drawing up administration decree (unless a reference is directed under Order XXXVIII.) - -	0	10	0
On drawing up order on further consideration, where the property administered exceeds 200*l.* - -	1	0	0

Note.—If, at or before the commencement of the hearing, the whole cause of action is admitted, half the hearing fee shall be returned.

Interlocutory.

On setting down a case for hearing after being struck out or adjourned through the default of any party, one half of the hearing fee, but in no case less than 2*s.* 6*d.*, to be paid by, or recovered from, the party in default.			
On filing every notice of motion (not specially charged)	0	2	6
On filing every affidavit (including all exhibits thereto) or any other document not specially charged - -	0	1	0
On every order to show cause - - - -	0	2	6
On every other order drawn up by direction of the Court, not being a non-suit or judgment - -	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
On every subpœna - - - - -	0	1	0
On application for warrant to arrest absconding defendant or for interim attachment of property - -	0	5	0
On filing bond or security - - - -	0	10	0
On warrant for arrest of absconding defendant -	0	5	0
On warrant of attachment against property where the value is less than 50*l.* - - - -	0	5	0
On warrant of attachment against property where the value is 50*l.* or upwards - - - -	0	10	0
On application for warrant for detention of a ship -	1	0	0
On warrant for detention of a ship - - -	2	0	0
On application for writ of foreign attachment - -	0	10	0
On writ of foreign attachment - - -	2	0	0
Where an inquiry is directed and is ordered to be made by an officer of the Court, on each sitting or adjourned sitting (to include any report) - -	0	10	0
Where an account is directed to be taken by an officer of the court, on every 50*l.* or part thereof of the amount found to have been received without deducting any payment (to include any report) - -	0	2	0

Review and Special Case.

On motion for review of judgment, if amount involved is under 50*l.* - - - - -	0	5	0
On motion for review of judgment in every other case -	0	10	0
On settling every special case, from each party -	0	5	0
On setting same down for hearing - - -	1	0	0
On every new trial an additional hearing fee shall be taken.			

Proceedings to enforce Decrees and Orders.

On every judgment debtor summons, to include hearing	0	2	6
On every warrant of arrest and commitment -	0	2	0
On every warrant of execution or sequestration against property for less than 50*l.* - - - -	0	5	0
On every warrant of execution for 50*l.* and upwards -	0	10	0
On every warrant of arrest and imprisonment -	0	5	0
On every summons for the release of property from attachment - - - - - -	0	2	6

Appeals.

	From D. C.			From Judge.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
On motion for leave to appeal - -	0	5	0	1	0	0
On every bond - - - -	0	2	6	0	10	0

	From D. C. £	s.	d.	From Judge. £	s.	d.
On order for leave to appeal - -	0	5	0	1	0	0
On making up appeal record, per folio of 72 words of the record - - -	0	0	4	0	0	4
On drawing appeal case, per folio - -	0	1	0	0	1	0
On fair copies thereof, per folio - -	0	0	4	0	0	4

Costs of transmission, and other charges, as the Court directs.

On setting down appeal for hearing, the same fees as would be payable for summons and hearing fee in an original action, for the amount or subject-matter in dispute on appeal.

Probate and Administration.

On filing application for probate or administration -	0	5	0
On filing oath of executor or administrator - -	0	5	0
On taking justification of sureties, for each surety -	0	2	6
On filing administration bond - - -	0	10	0
On probate or letters of administration, where the value of the property in respect of which the grant is made does not exceed 25*l.* - - - -			
Exceeds 25*l.*, and does not exceed 50*l.* - -	1	0	0
Exceeds 50*l.*, for each 50*l.* or fractional part thereof -	1	0	0
On inventory of property, when directed to be taken by an officer of the Court, for the first three hours or part thereof - - - - -	0	6	0
On inventory of property, for every subsequent hour or part thereof - - - - -	0	2	0
On application for leave to search index to grants -	0	1	0
On application for leave to inspect grants - -	0	2	6
On deposit of original will for safe custody - -	0	6	0

Note.—Under s. 41 of the Marriage Ordinance, 1884, under certain circumstances both real and personal property must be taken into account in assessing the duty payable on a grant of administration.

Divorce.

On every citation - - - - -	0	5	0
On filing petition - - - - -	0	5	0
On filing answer or further pleading - - -	0	5	0
On setting down case for hearing - - -	0	15	0

Note.—All other fees, sanctioned by the Court and not specially provided for in this scale shall be charged in conformity with the law and practice for the time being in force in England.

Service.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Service of a summons or any document under any branch of the civil jurisdiction - - - -	0	1	0
Every personal arrest - - - -	0	2	6
Execution of any writ against property - -	0	2	6
In cases of difficulty, or where the property is of large amount, the Court may authorise a larger fee not exceeding - - - - - -	1	0	0
Every man in possession when necessary for the first three days each - - - - -	0	2	0
For every subsequent day - - - -	0	1	6
Every sale under execution, including the receipt of the purchase money and delivery of the property, where the property sold does not produce more than 300*l.*, 5 per cent.; 400*l.*, 4 per cent.; 500*l.*, 3 per cent.; and where it exceeds 500*l.*, 2½ per cent.			
When a constable or messenger executes any duty under this head at a greater distance than one mile and a half (English) from the Court, he is entitled, in addition to the specified fees, to receive for every further complete mile, less than five miles (one way)	0	0	6
If beyond five miles, at the rate of 2*s.* 6*d.* a day for the time necessarily occupied in travelling.			
Where the Sheriff or Registrar executes any duty in person, by the direction of the Court, he is entitled, in lieu of mileage, to his actual travelling expenses.			
For any duty not herein provided for the officer may receive such fee as the Court may allow.			
Note.—Where an officer serves more than one writ upon the same route one mileage rate only is to be charged and apportioned upon the writs.			
The fees under the head of "Service" shall be received by the Registrar for the use of the officers charged with the performance of the particular services.			

Officers of Court.

For taking statement of party when directed by the Court, according to circumstances, as the Court may allow - - - - - -	2*s.* to 10*s.*		
For drawing bill of costs when directed by the Court, per folio of 72 words - - - -	0	0	6
Taxing costs when directed by the Court, where the amount of the bill delivered does not exceed 5*l.* -	0	2	0
And for every additional 5*l.* or fractional part thereof -	0	2	0
Making copy of any document when authorised by the Court, per folio of 72 words - - -	0	0	4

Note.—The fees under the head of "Officers of Court" shall be received by the Registrar for use of the officers charged with the performance of the particular services. Provided that no fee exceeding 5*l.* shall be paid to any officer for the taxation of a bill of costs, but the excess, if any, shall be paid into the Treasury.

Miscellaneous.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Commission to take evidence out of the jurisdiction -	1	0	0
do. within the jurisdiction -	0	5	0
For taking the acknowledgment of a married woman -	1	0	0
On swearing every affidavit in a proceeding in court for each deponent - - - - -	0	1	0
On swearing every affidavit other than those required by s. 19 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1878 not in a proceeding in Court for each deponent - -	0	2	0
On making a declaration, except where required by the regulations of a Government Department - -	0	1	0
On marking every exhibit or document annexed to any affidavit or declaration - - -	0	0	6
On attesting the execution or signature by any party of any deed or instrument (other than agreements under the "Master and Servant Ordinance, 1877") not expressly provided for - - - -	0	1	0
On affixing the seal of the Court to any document not in a proceeding - - - - -	0	5	0
For certifying a copy of any document as an office copy, for every folio of 72 words or part thereof - -	0	0	2
On granting certificate of purchase of land sold in execution of decree - - - -	0	5	0
On appointment as commissioner to administer oaths &c. - - - - - -	1	1	0

In Criminal Matters.

On every summons (to include hearing fee) - -	0	4	0
On every warrant to arrest (unless specially directed by the Court to be issued) - - - -	0	2	0
On each recognizance (except to prosecute or give evidence) - - - - - -	0	2	0
Warrant to levy on property - - - -	0	2	0

Note.—The Court may direct repayment, if it sees fit, of any fees paid in a criminal proceeding.

Inquests.

Fees to Medical Practitioners.

On examination of the body, reporting thereon and giving evidence at the inquest - - -	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
On every dissection, if necessary, in addition - -	1	1	0
On attending inquest to give evidence, each day after the first - - - - -	1	1	0

Note.—These fees, together with necessary travelling expenses (if any), shall be paid out of the Colonial Treasury to persons entitled thereto under the 193rd section of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance; but by Ordinance No. 7, of 1879 none of the above fees are payable to Government Officers for services rendered at any inquest on any prisoner or person confined in a Lunatic Asylum, except that where a post-mortem examination is made by direction of the Coroner there shall be payable a fee of one guinea.

In all cases the Coroner shall certify (in addition to the performance of the service) whether the deceased was, or was not, at the time of his death a prisoner or confined in a Lunatic Asylum. For further directions, *see* Consolidated Regulations, *sub tit.* "Coroner."

Allowances to Witnesses.

	per diem.		
Professional men - - - - -	1	1	0
Gentlemen, merchants, auctioneers, - - -	0	10	6
Native Chiefs, and captains - from 5*s* to	0	10	6
Master tradesmen, pilots, clerks - - -	0	5	0
Artizans and journeymen - - - -	0	2	0
Servants, labourers, canoemen and the like - -	0	1	0
Women, according to station - from 1*s* to	0	5	0

Note.—The travelling expenses of witnesses shall be allowed according to the sums reasonably and actually paid.

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2. POST OFFICE.

a. Letters, Newspapers, &c.

Inland.

For a letter, for every ½ oz. or fraction thereof -	0	0	1
For a newspaper (not exceeding 4 oz.) - -	0	0	1
For newspapers in parcel, a book packet, patterns, or commercial papers, for every 4 oz. or fraction thereof	0	0	1

Foreign.

Countries.	A Letter. For every ½oz. or fraction thereof.	A Post Card.	A Newspaper not exceeding 4oz.	Other Articles. Printed Papers and Books. For every 2oz. or fraction thereof.	Other Articles. Commercial Papers.	Other Articles. Pattern. For every 2oz. or fraction thereof.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*		*s. d.*
For all countries of the Postal Union except those mentioned below -	0 4	0 1½	0 1	0 1	The same as printed papers except that the lowest charge is 2½*d.*	0 1
Aden - -						
Ceylon - -						
Hong Kong -						
India - -						
Japan - -						
Java - -	0 5	0 2	0 1½	0 1½		0 2
Labuan - -						
Philippine Islands						
Penang - -						
Singapore -						
United Kingdom -	0 2½	0 1½	0 1	0 1		0 1

The registration fee on all letters, books or parcels (except to certain foreign countries) is 2*d.*

b. Money Orders.

Rate of commission on money orders :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For every 10*s.* or portion of 10*s.* - -	0	0	2

c. Parcel Post.

Postage on parcels addressed to the United Kingdom, per lb. or portion of a lb. - - - -	0	0	9
Postage on parcels addressed to the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone or the Gambia, per lb. or portion of a lb. -	0	0	6

Dimensions and Weights.

Greatest length - - -	3 feet 6 inches.
„ and girth combined -	6 feet.
„ weight - - -	11 lbs.

d. Sorting Boxes.

	£	s	d.
For each private sorting box in the Post Office, per annum - - - - - -	1	1	0

Authorities; various.

3. CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

The following fees are payable under s. 14 of the Customs Ordinance, 1876 [No. 10 of 1876; cf. No. 4 of 1886, No. 15 of 1889, and No. 2 of 1890], by importers and exporters of goods in respect of the services of Customs officers at extra hours :—

	Per day.			Per hour.		
Where the officer is :	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
A District Commissioner acting as collector of customs - - -	1	5	0	0	5	0
A chief clerk - - - -	0	15	0	0	3	0
A junior „ - - - -	0	10	0	0	2	0
A warehouse keeper or examining officer	0	15	0	0	3	0
An assistant examining officer - -	0	10	0	0	2	0
An outdoor officer taking an account of the landing or shipment of goods -	0	5	0	0	1	0

4. SHIPPING.

Ordinance No. 3 of 1874 ("An ordinance to repeal the "Customs Fees Ordinance, No. 3, of the 21st day of "March, 1873, and to make other provision relative "thereto") empowers,

a. The chief officer of Customs, as Registrar of Shipping, to demand the following fees :—

	£	s	d.
For registering a ship and granting a certificate of registry - - - - -	0	5	0
For each form of bill of sale or mortgage issued	0	1	0
„ each form of declaration issued - -	0	0	6
„ endorsing the names of owners upon certificate of registry on change of owners -	0	2	0
For endorsing the names of owners upon certificate of registry on change of masters -	0	2	0
For each entry in the registry book relating to transfer by bill of sale - - -	0	1	0
For each entry in the registry book relating to mortgage - - - - -	0	2	0
For transmitting particulars on application to transfer registry to another port - -	0	2	6
For granting a certificate of mortgage or sale -	0	5	0
„ sales or mortgages made before registrar under certificates of sale or mortgage, each -	0	2	6

	£	s.	d.
For each certified copy of documents under 107th section Merchant Shipping Act, 1854	0	1	0
For inspection ot the registry book -	0	1	0

b. The chief officer of Customs, as shipping master to receive the following fees:—

1. Engagement or discharge of crews:—

Ships under 60 tons - - -	0	4	0
,, between 60 and 100 tons - -	0	7	0
,, between 100 and 200 tons - -	0	15	0

and 5s. additional for every 100 tons.

2. Engagement or discharge of seamen separately - - - - -	0	2	0
3. Copy of seamen's certificate of discharge -	0	1	0
4. Indentures of apprentices - - -	0	5	0
5. Certificate of deposit of any document -	0	2	0
6. Sanction in writing to discharge of any seaman or apprentice - - - -	0	5	0
7. Rendering account of wages, &c. of seaman deceased or left behind - - -	0	2	0
8. Copy of certificate of desertion -	0	2	0
9. Examination of provisions or water - -	0	10	6
10. Attesting will of a seaman - - -	0	2	0

c. The superintendent of the survey and admeasurement of vessels to receive, from the owner, master or commander of any ship or vessel admeasured by him:—

For each measured transverse section -	0	10	6
For each certificate of survey, in addition to the above - - - - -	1	1	0
For each certificate of survey or of identity where measurement of tonnage is not required - - - - -	1	1	0

5. HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

Under section 2 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1881, "The Lagos Hospital Ordinance, 1881," where a Kru labourer or a domestic servant is admitted into the Colonial Hospital his employer has to pay—

For the first five days that the labourer or servant is in hospital - - -	0	4	2	a day
For each subsequent day - - -	0	1	3	

And under section 48 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1878 "The Lagos Pilotage and Harbour Ordinance, 1878," (cf. ss. 24, 49) hospital dues are payable, in respect of persons removed to the

	£	s.	d.	
Colonial Hospital from on board ship, by the master or owner, or the charterer or his agent, other consignee or his agent, at the following rates:—				
Where the patient is the master - -	0	10	0	a day
„ „ a mate - -	0	7	6	„
„ „ an ordinary seaman -	0	4	2	„
and „ „ a Kruman, 4*s.* 2*d.* for the first five days in hospital and 1*s* 3*d.* for every subsequent day.				
Section 46 of the same Ordinance enacts that the fee for the supervision of medicines and medical attendance on board ship shall be 30*s.* for each person on board for the period of the ship's stay in harbour, if less than four months; but if that time is exceeded, the like sum shall again become payable; if the ship remains in the harbour for less than 21 days one half of the said sum only shall be paid.				
These fees shall not be chargeable in the case of:—				
Ships carrying a certificated surgeon;				
Steamships navigating within the harbour only, or visiting the harbour casually, or for repairs;				
Coasting ships trading within the settlement of Lagos only and not remaining in the harbour for more than seven consecutive days.				
The following fees and charges are payable, under the Hospital Rules, 1889, by "paying patients":—				
Government Officers, including native clerks in the Government service, whose salaries exceed 50*l.* a year, for every full 50*l.* of annual salary - - -	0	0	9	a day
Professional men, merchants or their principal agents and auctioneers - -	0	7	6	„
European and American clerks - -	0	6	0	„
Native chiefs - - - -	0	3	0	„
Master tradesmen - - - -	0	1	6	„
Native clerks not being in the public service - - - - -	0	1	0	„
Artizans, journeymen, servants out of employment, labourers and canoemen -		Free.		
Women according to their station;				
Children under 14 years of age, half the foregoing rates, according to the station of their parents or guardians.				

	£	s.	d.
Under the "Ereko Dispensary Rules, 1889," persons who are not entitled to gratuitous treatment at the Dispensary, but who are unable to pay for medical treatment at their house, are entitled to receive medical advice and treatment at the dispensary upon payment of -	0	1	0

6. PUBLIC POUNDS.

Under rules passed on the 7th of August 1888, under s. 30 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1878, ("The Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance, 1878") the following penalties are payable to the Treasurer, viz. :—

For every head of cattle - - -	0	2	0	
„ „ „ swine - - -	0	1	0	
And for keep of same the following charges:—				
For every head of cattle - - -	0	1	0	a day
„ „ „ swine - - -	0	0	6	„

7. REGISTRATION.

a. Instruments affecting Land.

	£	s.	d.
The following fees are receivable, under section 24 of Ordinance No. 8 of 1883 ("The Registration Ordinance, 1883") by the Registrar of Instruments affecting land:—			
For every acknowledgment or proof of an instrument - - - - - -	0	2	6
For the registration and recording of every instrument other than a memorial, for every folio of 72 words - - - -	0	0	9
For verifying every memorial and recording the same - - - - - -	0	5	0
For depositing every instrument - - -	0	2	6
„ taking out the same - - - -	0	2	6
„ every search in the records or memorials, for every half hour - - - -	0	2	6
For every additional half hour - - -	0	2	6
„ an attested copy of or extract from any recorded instrument or memorial, for every folio of 72 words - - - - -	0	1	0
For comparing, if required, any instrument with the register thereof, for every 72 words - -	0	0	6
For every certificate or extract - - -	0	2	6
„ every search in thegeneral for every half hour - - - - - -	0	2	6

b. Marriages.

	£	s.	d.
And under section 45 of the above mentioned No. 14 of 1884, the following fees are payable to Registrars of Marriages :—			
For filing and entering notice - - -	0	5	0
„ issuing certificate or certified copy of certificate	0	2	6
certifying an extract - - - -	0	2	6
On marriage in registry - - - -	0	5	0

c. Births.

For registering a birth when the child is more than three, but not more than 12 months old (to be paid by the informant) - - - -	0	2	6
For registering a birth when the child is more than 12 months old (to be paid by the informant) - -	0	5	0
For entering the baptismal or other name of a child, upon a certificate being produced, after registration of birth (to be paid by the person procuring the name to be entered) - - - -	0	1	0
For correcting an error of fact in a register (to be paid by the person requiring the error to be corrected) -	0	2	6
For each search of the index to and inspection of an entry in a register - - - - -	0	1	0
For each certified copy of any entry in a register -	0	2	6

III. RENTS.

1. WHARFAGE.

The following tolls and dues are payable, under Ordinance No. 7 of 1889 ("The Wharfage Ordinance 1889") upon movables landed or shipped at a Custom-house pier :—	£	s.	d.
Beer, per barrel or case - - - -	0	0	3
Beniseed, per ton - - - -	0	1	6
Brandy, per case of one dozen - - -	0	0	1
Brass rods, per case - - - -	0	0	2
Bricks, per thousand - - - -	0	2	6
Cordage, per coil - - - -	0	0	1½
Cotton (raw), per bale - - - -	0	0	3
Cowries, per ton - - - - -	0	1	6
Earthenware, per crate or cask - - -	0	0	8
Felt, per roll - - - - -	0	0	4
Flints, per keg - - - - -	0	0	2
Geneva, per case of one dozen - - -	0	0	1
Ground-nuts, per ton - - - -	0	1	6
Guns or pistols, per case - - -	0	0	6
Horses, each - - - - -	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Iron chains, „ pots, „ bars, „ bolts, „ rods, „ sheets, per ton - - - -	0	2	6
Ivory, per ton - - - - -	0	1	6
Kernels, per ton - - - -	0	1	6
Kola nuts, per basket - - - -	0	0	6
Lumber, per 1,000 feet - - -	0	2	0
Machinery, per ton - - - -	0	2	6
Matchets, per case - - - -	0	0	3
Paint, per stone (14 lbs.) - - -	0	0	0¼
Palm, black or other oil, per drum - -	0	1	0
„ „ „ per puncheon or barrel -	0	0	6
Pipes, per case - - - - -	0	0	1
Rum, per puncheon or pipe - - -	0	0	6
„ per barrel or ½ pipe - - - -	0	0	4
„ per case of one dozen or demijohn -	0	0	1
Salt, per ton - - - - -	0	1	6
Shooks, per bundle - - - -	0	0	2
Slates, per 1,000 - - - -	0	0	6
Spirits not otherwise specified, per case of 1 doz.-	0	0	1
Sugar, per hogshead - - - -	0	2	0
„ per barrel - - - -	0	0	3
„ per case or tin not exceeding 40 lbs. -	0	0	1
Tiles per thousand - - - -	0	2	6
Tobacco, per hogshead - - - -	0	1	6
„ per puncheon - - - -	0	0	6
„ per roll - - - -	0	0	1
Wines, per puncheon, pipe, or hogshead -	0	0	6
„ per ¼ cask - - - -	0	0	4
„ per case of 1 dozen - - -	0	0	1
Zinc, per roll of 200 feet - - -	0	0	4
„ „ 100 feet - - -	0	0	2

All movables not above specified, or, if above specified, not imported so as to be chargeable under the above tariff, are charged as follows:—

For every bale or truss not exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	4
„ „ „ exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	6
„ puncheon, pipe or hogshead - -	0	0	4
„ barrel - - - - -	0	0	3
„ case - - - - -	0	0	4
Movables not exceeding 112 lbs. in weight -	0	0	2

In charging the tolls and dues upon movables chargeable by weight or measure a proportion of the respective tolls and dues is charged for any greater or less weight or measure than is specified above.

Exemptions.

Mails; Postal parcels;
Postal letters; Personal luggage.

2. CUSTOMS WAREHOUSES.

Section 1 of No. 8 of 1873 ("An Ordinance to regulate "the sums payable as rent for goods and merchandise "stored in the Government warehouses") charges goods stored in Government warehouses (after the first week) with rent at the following rates :—

	Rate per Week or portion of a Week.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Beer, per barrel or case	0	0	3
Brandy, per case of one dozen	0	0	1
Brass rods, per case	0	0	1
Cordage, per coil	0	0	2
Cowries, per cwt.	0	0	1
Earthenware, per crate or cask	0	0	6
Felt, per roll	0	0	1
Flints, per keg	0	0	1
Geneva, per case of one dozen	0	0	1
Guns or pistols, per case	0	0	6
Iron chains, „ pots, „ bars, „ bolts, „ rods, „ sheets, per ton	0	1	0
Kola nuts, per basket	0	0	6
Machinery, per ton	0	1	0
Matchets, per case	0	0	1
Pipes, per case	0	0	1
Rum, per puncheon or pipe	0	0	6
„ barrel or half pipe	0	0	3
„ case of one dozen	0	0	1
Salt per ton	0	1	0
Shooks, each	0	0	3
Spirits not otherwise specified, per case of 1 doz.	0	0	1
Sugar, per hogshead	0	0	6
„ barrel	0	0	3
„ case or tin not exceeding 40 lbs.	0	0	1
Tobacco, per hogshead	0	1	0
„ puncheon	0	0	6
„ roll	0	0	1

	Rate per Week or portion of a Week. £	s.	d.
Wines, per puncheon, pipe or hogshead - -	0	0	6
„ ¼ cask - - - - -	0	0	2
„ case of one dozen - - -	0	0	1
Zinc, per roll of 200 feet - - - -	0	0	4
„ 100 feet - - - -	0	0	2
Goods not enumerated above, or, if above enumerated, not imported in such form as to be chargeable under the above tariff, are charged by the same section as follows:—			
For every bale or truss not exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	6
„ „ exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	8
„ puncheon, pipe or hogshead - -	0	0	6
„ barrel - - - - -	0	0	3
„ case - - - - -	0	0	6
Small packages not exceeding one cwt. each and not being personal luggage - - - -	0	0	1

3. GUNPOWDER MAGAZINE

For every quarter or portion of a quarter of a year that any barrel of gunpowder of 100 lbs. nett weight remains stored in a Government magazine Ordinance No. 6 of 1885 ("The Government Gunpowder Magazines Ordinance, 1885") makes chargeable the sum of - - - - - -	0	0	9

4. MARKETS.

a. Meat Market at Ereko.

Under rules made, under sections 41 and 67 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1878 ("The Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance, 1878") on the 2nd of December 1882, there is payable:—			
For each stall, table or place in the market, per month - - - - -	0	5	0

b. Marina Fish and Meat Market.

Under rules made, under the same sections of the same Ordinance, on the 30th of November 1889:—			
For each stall, table, place or stand for the sale of fish per month - - - -	0	3	0
For each stall, table, place or stand for the sale of meat per month - - -	0	5	0

5. ITOLO SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

	£	s	d.
Under rules made, under the same sections of the same Ordinance, on the 2nd of December, 1882:—			
For each ox, heifer, bull, cow, horse, ass or mule -	0	1	0
„ pig or sheep - - - -	0	0	6
„ goat - - - - -	0	0	3

6. CEMETERY, LAGOS.

Space for vault 8 feet square - - - -	5	0	0
„ „ grave, 8 feet by 3 - - - -	2	10	0
„ „ „ 4 feet by 2 - - - -	1	5	0

The revenue is also increased by penalties inflicted under a variety of Ordinances and by sales of Government property and of prison manufactures.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

In a Despatch addressed by the Governor of the Colony to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the following lucid exposition is given of the financial statement for the year:—

Revenue.

"The estimated revenue amounted to 56,880*l.*, whilst that actually collected totalled 78,624*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, showing an excess over the estimate of 21,744*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

"There were increases under the following heads, viz.:—

Head of estimate.	Amount estimated.	Amount collected.	Increase.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - - -	47,000 0 0	67,307 13 3	20,307 13 3
Harbour, Wharfage, and Lighthouse Dues - - - - -	3,010 0 0	3,387 14 4	377 14 4
Licenses and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified - - -	1,945 0 0	2,962 10 4	1,017 10
Fees of Court or office payments for specific service and reimbursements in aid - - - - -	1,580 0 0	1,792 15 1	212 15 1
Total Revenue - - - -	1,080 0 0	1,187 13 0	107 13 0
Miscellaneous - - - -	210 0 0	311 5 7	101 5 7
Totals - - - -	£54,025 0 0	£76,949 11 7	£22,124 11 7

"On the other hand there were decreases to the amount of 379*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, as under.

Head of Estimate.	Amount estimated.	Amount collected.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent of Government Property -	325 0 0	312 9 6	12 10 6
Interest on Investments - -	1,530 0 0	1,330 2 3	199 17 9
Land Sales - - - -	200 0 0	32 15 0	167 5 0
Totals - - - -	£2,055 0 0	£1,675 6 9	£379 13 3

"The net excess of revenue therefore amounted to 21,744*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* as stated above.

"This large increase is, of course, mainly due to the additional impost of 2*d.* per gallon on spirits and ½*d.* per lb. on tobacco under Ordinance No. 4 of 1891; the former realizing 9,533*l.*, and the latter 1,384*l.*; there was, however, a general increase of trade, the Customs duties as a whole showing an excess over estimate of 20,787*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*

"The under-mentioned table exhibits a comparison between the Revenues of 1890 and 1891:—

Heads of Estimate.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - - -	67,307 13 3	47,013 4 3	20,294 9 0	—
Harbour, Wharf and Lighthouse Dues - - - - -	3,387 14 4	2,253 17 8	1,133 16 8	—
Licenses and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified - - -	2,962 10 4	2,153 14 1	808 16 3	—
Fees of Court or Office for specific services and Reimbursements in aid - - - - -	1,792 15 1	1,583 5 8	209 9 5	—
Postal Revenue - - - -	1,187 13 0	1,157 18 0	29 15 0	—
Rent of Government Property -	312 9 6	279 11 7	32 17 11	—
Interest on Investments - -	1,330 2 3	1,452 14 10	—	122 12 7
Miscellaneous - - - -	311 5 7	187 13 10	123 11 9	—
Land Sales - - - -	32 15 0	258 13 2	—	225 18 2
Totals - - - -	£78,624 18 4	£56,340 13 1	£22,632 16 0	£348 10 9

"It will be observed from this table that there is an increase on every head of revenue with the exception of "Interest on Investments" and "Land Sales," and that the sum total of these decreases is only 348*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* whilst the increases amount to 22,632*l.* 16*s.* This result is principally due to the addition to the tariff as previously mentioned.

Expenditure.

"The estimated expenditure for the year amounted to 57,339*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and the sum actually disbursed amounted to 66,388*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, showing an excess expenditure of 9,048*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*

"Out of this somewhat large sum, however, 6,679*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* appears as unestimated expenditure, the principal items being as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d*
"(1) Harbour master - - -	1,302	12	9
(2) Miscellaneous - - -	635	19	0
(3) Public Works recurrent - -	1,134	15	1
(4) „ „ extraordinary -	3,530	12	3
Total - -	£6,603	19	1

"In regard to the first charge the whole of this sum was expended over the survey of the bar by an engineer sent out from England to determine whether it would be possible to deepen the channel.

"The principal item of the second charge is 381*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, expenses in connection with the census; the rest consist of comparatively small sums under various sub-heads, the largest being 140*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*—fees to Inspector of Weights and Measures. This sum, however, is practically balanced by an item under revenue; these fees being, in the first instance, paid into the Treasury.

"The largest item in the third charge is a sum of 566*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* expended upon 'Five Cowrie Creek Bridge.' The Secretariat is credited with 216*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, the Contagious Diseases Hospital, 175*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, and the Registrar-General's office, 100*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*

"Of the fourth item the large sum of 2,682*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* was expended over the survey of the island of Lagos. The Colonial Hospital absorbed 257*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*, the new Mohammedan Cemetery 337*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, and the light house 194*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*"

ADVANCES.

"The total amount of advances outstanding on the 31st December, 1891, was 1,176*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*"

"DEPOSITS.

"The total amount of deposits for which the Government was liable on the same date was 10,464*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* out of which 6,006*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* represented savings bank deposits."

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

"The Colony has no debt, but the balance standing to its credit on the 31st of December amounted to 40,695*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*"

The third decade of the Colony's existence having been completed at the end of the year, it may be of interest to show in a tabular form the Revenue and Expenditure since its cession to the English.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862 to 1891.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - -	7,130 6 8	6,510 14 2
1863 -	16,708 2 7	15,837 0 5
1864 - -	21,335 8 0	22,805 14 11
1865 - -	24,081 10 8	24,095 4 10
1866 - -	23,816 11 8	23,602 9 8
1867 - -	29,974 13 11	30,195 8 1
1868 - -	33,895 15 11	33,711 14 6
1869 - -	40,438 2 2	39,431 0 6
1870 - -	41,683 14 10	42,379 0 10
1871 - -	45,612 2 9	45,611 14 4
1872 -	41,346 0 10	41,346 7 1
1873 - -	52,240 1 2	52,225 1 8
1874 - -	39,335 14 5	37,296 18 5
1875 - -	43,336 13 0	44,379 12 0
1876 - -	46,448 1 2	45,170 8 9
1877 - -	59,389 16 0	42,305 7 5
1878 - -	50,889 0 0	49,736 0 0
1879 - -	54,939 12 7	45,934 18 10
1880 - -	47,987 1 1	55,475 14 2
1881 - -	42,421 12 8	45,461 13 10
1882 - -	44,636 4 9	44,039 2 11
1883 - -	50,558 15 8	37,879 9 3
1884 - -	57,932 5 6	44,683 11 9
1885 - -	63,504 18 11	40,313 13 2
1886 - -	53,507 2 11	55,383 2 0
1887 - -	51,346 14 6	78,610 9 11
1888 - -	57,057 16 11	60,840 3 10
1889 - -	57,633 3 8	57,488 1 2
1890 -	56,340 13 1	63,700 16 3
1891 - -	78,624 18 4	66,388 3 11

ARMED FORCES.

The Houssa Constabulary Force and Civil Police Force of the Colony amounted in 1891 to 250 and 170 non-commissioned officers and men respectively. They were officered by an inspector general, an inspector, two assistant inspectors, one pay and quarter master, one native officer, who were attached to the Houssa and police force and by a sub-intendant and assistant sub-intendant, whose duties are chiefly connected with the police.

The Houssa force is now (in 1892) being doubled, and the police are being increased to 220.

The whole force is armed with Snider B.L. rifles, five 7-pounder M.L.R. steel guns, rocket trough, one 3-pounder quick-firing Nordenfeldt, one Maxim gun, one 0·45 Gatling gun, and two 3-barrel Nordenfeldts, ·50.

The cost of the force, including clerks, &c., amounted in all to the sum of 13,625*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* as detailed below.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Personal emoluments—salaries - -	2,594	5	0
Rank and file - - - -	8,795	16	2
Horse allowance - - -	240	12	6
Clothing and accoutrements - -	745	13	4
Necessaries - - - -	52	16	11
Musical Instruments - - -	11	19	10
Gratuities - - - -	120	0	0
Ammunition - - - -	1,060	8	11
Musketry Requisites - - -	1	11	9
Houssas in England - - -	2	13	3
	£13,625	17	8

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances and Rules were passed during the year by the Legislative Council :—

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.
1891.	Laws.
10th February -	No. 1. An Ordinance to further amend the Customs Ordinance, 1876.
" " -	No. 2. An Ordinance to prevent the improper disclosure of certain information.
3rd March - -	No. 3. An Ordinance to amend the Hospitals and Dispensaries Ordinance 1889, and to confer upon the Colonial Surgeon a limited power to fine hospital and dispensary attendants.

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.
1891.	Laws.
3rd March - -	No. 4. An Ordinance to increase the duties of Customs upon certain kinds of spirits and upon tobacco.
14th „ - -	No. 5. An Ordinance to legalize the detention and deportation of a certain political prisoner named Asada Owopa.
16th April - -	No. 6. An Ordinance to provide for a census being taken during the current year.
26th May - -	No. 6A. An Ordinance to allow and confirm certain expenditure for the service of the colony during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety.
31st July - -	No. 7. An Ordinance to exempt the African Direct Telegraph Company from the payment of Customs duties and certain other dues in respect of any ship belonging to or chartered by them for the purposes of telegraph work and in respect of certain goods imported by them.
28th August (disallowed) -	No. 8. An Ordinance to regulate the dispensing and sale of drugs and poisons.
23rd October -	No. 9. An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.
30th December -	No. 10. An Ordinance to regulate the navigation of the inland waters and the management of vessels engaged therein.
	Rules, &c. passed by the Legislative Council.
30th April - -	Order exempting local steamers from the payment of light dues.
26th June - -	Order fixing the tolls and dues payable upon palm kernels and palm oil shipped from a custom-house pier.
17th July - -	Rules for the management of the lighthouse at Abekun.
31st „ - -	Amendment of rules under Prisons Ordinance, 1876.
28th August -	Order applying the laws of the Colony to the kingdoms of Addo, Igbessa and Ilaro.
24th November -	Order that the tolls and dues payable upon coal in bulk landed at or shipped from a custom-house pier shall be 1*s.* 6*d.* per ton.
„ „ -	Order that rate of rent payable in respect of lumber deposited in the Queen's warehouses be 2*s.* per 1,000 feet for a week or part of a week after the first week.

EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

The changes in the Executive and Legislative Councils are shown in the following statement:—

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

RETURN of MEMBERS composing the Executive Council.

Names	Date of Appointment.	Date of Confirmation (taking oaths).	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
Sir C. A. Moloney, K.C.M.G. *a*	14 Jan. 1886	13 Feb. 1886	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G. *b*	4 Feb. 1891	21 Sept. 1891	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. C. Denton, Esq, C.M.G. *c*	9 March 1888	17 Nov. 1888	Colonial Secretary.
Oliver Smith, Esq. *d* -	17 April 1886	7 July 1886	Queen's Advocate.
W. J. P. Elliott, Esq. *e* -	27 Aug. 1889	23 Sept. 1889	Treasurer.
H. M. B. Griffith, Esq. *f* -	——	21 Aug. 1891	Treasurer.
H. W. de Sausmarez, Esq. *g*	——	3 June 1891	Acting Queen's Advocate.

REMARKS.

a Quitted the Colony on the 3rd of January, and appointed Governor of British Honduras 3rd February.

b Arrived in the Colony on the 20th of September.

c Acting Governor from the 3rd of January to the 19th of September, and appointed Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and St. George 30th May.

d Absent on leave from the 2nd of June to the 31st of December.

e Quitted the Colony on appointment as Collector of Customs for Sierra Leone, 8th July.

f Appointed Colonial Treasurer 29th June, absent from the Colony from 7th December to 21st December, when Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, acted as Treasurer.

g Acted as Queen's Advocate during the absence of the Honourable Oliver Smith.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

RETURN of Members composing the Legislative Council.

Names.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Confirmation (taking oaths).	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
Sir C. A. Moloney, K.C.M.G. *a*	14 Jan. 1886	13 Feb. 1886	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G. *b*	4 Feb. 1891	21 Sept. 1891	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
J. Smalman Smith, Esq. *c*	——	13 Feb. 1886	Chief Justice.
G. C. Denton, Esq., C.M.G. *d*	9 March 1888	17 Nov. 1888	Colonial Secretary.
Oliver Smith, Esq. *e* -	17 April 1886	7 July 1886	Queen's Advocate.
W. J. P. Elliott, Esq. *f* -	27 Aug. 1888	31 Aug. 1888	Treasurer.
H. M. B. Griffith Esq. *g* -	——	——	Treasurer.
H. W. de Sausmarez, Esq. *h*	——	3 June 1891	Acting Queen's Advocate.
William Hammond Esq. *i*	10 Sept. 1886	28 Dec. 1886	Unofficial.
Rev. James Johnson *j* -	do. do.	26 June 1887	——
C. J. George, Esq. *k* -	do. do.	21 Oct.1886	——
John D. Fairley, Esq. *l* -	27 June 1890	27 June 1890	——
A. R. Elliott, Esq. *m* -	——	27 June 1890	——
T. Welsh, Esq. *n* -	——	19 Jan. 1890	——
A. J. Pell, Esq. *m* -	——	26 May 1891	——

REMARKS.

a Quitted the Colony on the 3rd of January and appointed Governor of British Honduras 3rd February.

b Arrived in the Colony on the 20th of September.

c Went on leave on the 22nd of June, when Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, acted as Chief Justice.

d Acting Governor from the 3rd of January to the 19th of September, appointed Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George on the 30th of May.

e Absent on leave from the 2nd June to the 31st December.

f Acted as Colonial Secretary from 2nd April to 8th July.

g Acted as Treasurer, 2nd April to 28th June. Appointed Treasurer 29th June. Absent from the Colony from 7th December to 21st December, when Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, acted as Treasurer.

h Acted as Queen's Advocate during the absence of the Honourable Oliver Smith.

i Re-appointed for three years from 31st May, 1890.

j „ „ 10th July, 1891.

k „ „ 2nd June, 1890, and was sworn in on 24th October, 1890.

l Appointed for three years—absent on leave from 19th January.

m Provisionally appointed.

n Resigned in May.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Sir C. A. Moloney, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony, having been absent, under medical advice, from the 3rd of January until the 3rd of February, when he was appointed to be Governor of British Honduras, Captain G. C. Denton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, acted as Governor from the 3rd of January to the 29th of September, when he was relieved on the arrival of Gilbert Thomas Carter, Esq., C.M.G., who had been appointed as Governor and Commander-in-Chief on the 3rd. of February, while on leave in England.

Captain Denton's place was filled by Captain E. Peel Inspector-General of Constabulary, who acted as Colonial Secretary from the 5th of January until the 1st of April, and by Mr. W. J P. Elliott, Colonial Treasurer, who acted in a similar capacity from the 2nd of April to the 8th of July. Temporary provision was then made for the duties of the Secretariat by the appointments of Captain A. F. Tarbet, Assistant Inspector of Constabulary, and Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, to act as Assistant Colonial Secretary, the former from the 8th of July to the 26th of August, and the latter from the 29th of August to the 19th of September. On the 20th of September, Captain Denton resumed the duties of his substantive appointment, and Mr. Alvan Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, who had been absent on leave since the 3rd of January, returned to the Colony.

Mr. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate and Registrar-General, was absent on leave from 2nd of June to the end of the year; during this period Mr. Havilland Walter de Sausmarez, Barrister-at-Law, acted as Queen's Advocate and Registrar-General.

LAGOS. 1891.

Mr. W. J. P. Elliott, Colonial Treasurer and *ex officio* manager of the Treasury Savings Bank, left the Colony on the 8th of August to take up the duties of Collector of Customs in Sierra Leone; and thereby the appointment of Treasurer became vacant. Mr. H. M. Brandford Griffith, Collector of Customs, returned to the Colony from leave of absence on the 30th of March, and performed the duties of Treasurer conjointly with those of his own office from the 2nd of April until the 29th of June, when he was selected for the vacant appointment. He, however, continued to combine the duties of both offices until the 19th of September, Mr. Lovell, who was appointed Collector of Customs on the 29th of August, not having taken up the duties of the office until the 20th of September.

The Colonial Surveyor was absent on sick leave from the beginning of the year until the 24th of January, when Mr. Henry Orme, foreman of works, acted as Colonial Surveyor. Mr. Anderson was again compelled to go on leave from the 29th of April to the end of the year, during which period his duties were performed by Mr. J. A. Rowse, the Senior Foreman of Works.

Captain A. J. Shuttleworth, master of Government vessels, acted as harbour master during the absence on leave of Captain Speeding from the beginning of the year until the 29th of March.

The former officer was granted leave on the 12th of April, and returned to the Colony on the 24th of November.

Mr. A. C. Stuart, engineer of Government steam vessels, who was absent from the Colony from the beginning of the year, returned on re-appointment on the 7th of July. During the year, the Honourable A. R. Elliott, M.L.C., and member of the Pilotage Board, acted as harbour master from the 26th of October to the 1st of November, and from the 9th to the 18th of the same month, when Captain Speeding was absent from headquarters.

Mr. A. C. Stuart acted in a similar capacity from the 4th to the 21st of August.

Mr. J. Smalman Smith, Chief Justice of the Colony, went on leave from the 22nd of June to the end of the year; in his absence Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, acted as Chief Justice.

During the year the duties of District Commissioner of Lagos were discharged by the following officers:—

Captain R. S. Johnstone from 1st January to 29th March, Mr. E. H. Richards from the 30th March to the 22nd of June. Mr. W. R. Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, from the 23rd of

June to the 30th of August, and Mr. G. Stallard from the 31st of August to the 31st of December.

In the Western District M. W. R. Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, acted as District Commissioner and Deputy Sheriff from the 1st of January to the 12th of April; Mr. E. Peel, Inspector General of Constabulary, from the 13th of April to the 18th of August; Captain W. le Poer Power, Special Service Officer, from the 19th of August to the 6th of December, and Captain R. S. Johnstone from the 7th of December to the end of the year.

Mr. G. Stallard discharged the duties of District Commissioner and Deputy Sheriff of the Eastern District from the 1st of January to the 20th of February, Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith, Assistant Inspector of Constabulary, from the 21st of February to the 8th of September, and Dr. W. R. Henderson, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, from the 9th of September to the 30th of December.

The Rev. M. Sunter, Inspector of Schools for the West African Colonies, visited the Colony for the purposes of inspection and examination, in respect of the year 1890, on the 20th of December, 1890, and departed on the 18th of March. In his unavoidable absence, Mr. Henry Carr, Sub-Inspector of Schools, was appointed, on the 2nd of November, Deputy Inspector of Schools, for the purpose of conducting the annual examinations in respect of the year 1891.

Mr. E. Peel, Inspector-General of Constabulary and Sheriff of the Colony, quitted the Colony on the 26th of August, to take up the duties of Inspector-General of Constabulary, Jamaica, for which appointment he was selected by Her Majesty. Mr. W. R. Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, acted as Inspector-General from the departure of Mr. Peel, until he went on leave on the 1st of October. From this latter date to the end of the year the acting appointment was held by Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith, Assistant Inspector.

Mr. J. W. Lee, keeper of the prison, was absent on leave from the 24th of January to the 1st of August, during which period the duties of his office were discharged by Mr. E. H. Oke, the Chief Warder.

Captain Denton paid a visit to Jebu Ode (from 6th to 17th May) during his administration of the Government of the Colony. This visit subsequently became of no inconsiderable political and commercial importance.

Mr. John Stuart, Foreman of Works, on special appointment to superintend the erection of the light-house tower, returned to England on the 29th of March, after the completion of his work.

LAGOS. 1891.

Mr. J. T. Hutchinson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and Mr. Francis Smith, Puisne Judge of the Gold Coast Colony, arrived in Lagos on the 16th of March for the sitting of the Full Court of Appeal of the Colony. They returned to the Gold Coast Colony on the 29th of the same month.

Dr. J. W. Rowland, Colonial Surgeon, acted, from the 24th of August to the 15th of September, as officer in charge of the newly acquired kingdom of Ilaro, in the Western District.

POPULATION.

The following extracts from the report of the committee, appointed to prepare a method to be followed in taking the Census of 1891, are of interest as showing the local difficulties encountered :—

"1. *The Time at which the Census should be taken.*

"We think it desirable that the Census should be taken as nearly as possible at the same time as the Census in England, that is to say, in the month of April 1891.

"There are difficulties which we regard as insuperable in the way of taking the Census of the Colony in one and the same day; in the first place a sufficient number of enumerators cannot be obtained of intelligence and education adequate for the duty; there are also difficulties of transit, language and other practical objections.

"In 1881 the Census extended over a very considerable period, the extent of which the committee have not been able accurately to ascertain, but ranging from 17 to 30 days. The committee express the hope that with greater care in organisation the period may be considerably curtailed.

"Even if it were possible to adopt the English system, it is questionable whether more accurate results would be obtained by taking the number of people who "slept or abode in the house on a particular night" than by adopting the principle of enumerating the people who are "ordinarily resident in the house"; under the former system all persons absent from the Colony on the particular night would be excluded, and large numbers of persons leave Lagos town in order to attend the various markets in the vicinity, frequently travelling considerable distances and being absent from their houses and the Colony for several days; this will appear from the table compiled at the request of the committee by Mr. Payne, Chief Registrar.

"There is, too, in the town of Lagos a large floating as well as migratory population, the extent of which it is difficult to estimate, and this observation applies, but of course in a lesser degree, to

the Eastern and Western Districts of the Colony and the outlaying country in the vicinity of Lagos.

"Having regard therefore to the foregoing considerations and to the means generally at the disposal of this Government for taking what may be fairly regarded as an approximately accurate census of the population, your committee beg to submit the following recommendations:—

"The census to begin on the 6th of April and end, as regards Lagos town, on the 9th, and as regards the rest of the Colony, on the 15th of that month. The schedules, when filled in, are to be forwarded, in each case by the enumerator of the section, as follows:—(*a*) As regards Lagos town, so as to be received by the Registrar of Births and Deaths on or before the 10th of April; (*b*) as regards the Eastern and Western Districts, so as to be received by the District Commissioners of those districts respectively on or before the 18th of April; as regards the Northern District and the rest of the Colony, so as to be received by the Registrar of Births and Deaths (at Lagos) on or before the 18th of April.

"The Committee submit a draft schedule with a code of Instructions to Enumerators which embody their recommendations under this head.

"It must be remembered that the social and material condition of the great mass of the inhabitants of the Colony is such that no precedent such as might readily be adopted in England or any other highly civilised country is here available. Only a very small proportion of the people can read or write. The Census Schedule cannot, therefore, be left by the enumerator at each house for the head of the family to fill in and return to the enumerator. The instances in which this course could be adopted are so few as not to be worth consideration in determining the general scheme.

"Upon the enumerator will devolve the duty of obtaining the required information and recording it in his schedule. It is therefore, essential that the information required should be kept within strict limits and be capable of being recorded in its minor details by some simple method, as by a cross, mark, or other means, in order to facilitate the work of the enumerator and shorten his labour so far as may be consistent with the chief object to be attained by the Census, which is primarily and chiefly the numbering of the people, and the ascertaining what may be considered to be the essential characteristics of their social and material condition.

"The Schedule, it will be observed, purports to record the number of persons "ordinarily resident" in the house, differing in this essential particular from the form usually adopted in England and elsewhere, which purports to record a list of persons who "slept or abode in a dwelling on a particular night."

"The reasons which render this departure necessary will sufficiently appear from the forgoing observations, and the committee are convinced that the principle adopted will best

conduce to the obtaining the desired results; in fact, with the means at the disposal of the Government, and under existing circumstances, it is the only possible and practicable method which could be adopted.

"As regards the form of the Schedule and the particulars to be entered therein, the Committee suggest the following instruction as best adapted to the circumstances :—

"As to Column 1. the expression "house" includes all buildings and *inter alia* every *abule* or *ahere* (farmhouse), of which the whole or any part is used for the purposes of human habitation.

"If a house or compound be let or sublet to separate families or lodgers, each occupier or lodger must be returned as covering his portion of the house or compound; *e.g.*, if there are 20 rooms in one house or compound (agbo ile), and such house or compound has only one entrance to it, a separate family residing in each room of the house or compound, the return should show 20 heads of families. But where a house or compound is occupied by a man having, say, 10 or 20 wives duly married to him after the native custom, and each wife with her children and servants occupies a separate room in the house or compound, then the man who occupies such house or compound is to be returned as the head of one family, notwithstanding the fact that each wife occupies with her children and servants a separate room. Where a man, as the head of a house or compound, has several wives, and also, living in the same compound, men under him, each of the latter having a wife or wives duly married to him after the native custom, with one child or more, such men and their wives and children should be counted as separate families.

"As to column 2 we are convinced that in view of the vague and confused ideas which pervade the native mind and language respecting relationship it would be useless to attempt to introduce any such particulars as relationship to the head of the family."

The actual difficulties met with during the enumeration are set forth in part in the attached extracts from the report of the Superintendent, Mr. E. H. Richards.

"In the work of enumeration a certain amount of difficulty was experienced, but not more than I think might reasonably have been expected. Only one case occurred in which legal proceedings had to be taken against a person to compel him to give the information required by the ordinance, and he consented to give it when the case was called on, so no punishment was inflicted. Much of the difficulty in obtaining information was due to persons being away at their farms when the enumerator called on them.

"The Commissioner for the Western District reported to me as follows :—

"I consider that in Pokra 5 per cent. at least are omitted. In the Badagry district about $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. It is almost impossible with the very scant knowledge at our disposal to

enumerate every farm and village, and until the district is properly surveyed this will always be the case. . . . . I think Appa is at least 10 per cent. short.

"In the Eastern District the villages of Ehinosa, Mawusa and Ofin, which are situate opposite Epe, could not be enumerated owing to the resistance opposed to the enumerator by the Epe people, who farm there, and who claimed the land as part of the Ijebu country. As there were probably only a few score of persons thus unenumerated, the Government did not consider it worth while for the enumerator to be sent back there on that account.

"Some allowance should doubtless be made both in the Central and Eastern Districts for persons unenumerated, but I am not prepared to say how much.

"In the town of Lagos the enumeration should be more exact, as the enumerators could visit every house, and there were several officers to supervise them. At the same time, the Census can only be regarded as affording approximate information; actual accuracy is not obtainable in the present condition of things.

* * * * * *

"I found it impossible to give the number of visitors on the night preceding the taking of the Census, as many of the enumerators had failed to understand the meaning of the term.

* * * * * *

"I felt that there ought to be some division of Africans into tribes, and I thought it best to proceed, as far as possible, on a scientific principle, and classify them by their languages. Immense difficulty was experienced in carrying out this scheme, principally on account of the large number of tribes, and the great variety of dialects.

"The different names given in the appendices as those of nations and tribes amounted to no less than 264; and it was necessary to keep them all separate until the final tabulation of results. Before that, it was impossible to say that a tribe which at first appeared insignificant might not, as the work progressed, assume an importance which would justify its appearing in an appendix by itself."

The total population as indicated in the attached returns amounted in 1891 to 85,607 as compared with 75,270 in 1881, the number of males being 41,800 and of females 43,807, as against 37,665 and 37,605 in the returns of the previous Census. Of these 150 were whites in the 1891 Census as against 117 in 1881.

As to Sex, the Condition as to Marriage, and Soundness of Mind; and as to the Number of Houses and Ships.

Locality.	Married.		Single.		Total.		Total Population.	Lunatics.		Houses or Ships.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	
Lagos, District A - - -	1,703	2,290	3,614	3,308	5,317	5,598	10,915	3	16	1,781
„ District B - - -	709	1,113	2,116	1,976	2,825	3,089	5,914	6	6	828
„ District C - - -	1,617	2,265	1,775	1,720	3,392	3,985	7,377	5	3	1,224
„ District D - - -	1,339	1,780	2,507	2,400	3,846	4,180	8,026	15	20	1,150
Ships - - - - -	32	—	244	—	276	—	276	—	—	9
Town and Harbour of Lagos. -	5,400	7,448	10,256	9,404	15,656	16,852	32,508	29	45	4,992
Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	3,852	4,759	6,830	6,367	10,682	11,126	21,808	16	48	5,835
Eastern District - - -	1,572	2,406	2,855	2,513	4,427	4,919	9,346	17	18	2,231
Western District - - -	3,961	5,173	7,074	5,737	11,035	10,910	21,945	19	26	4,019
Total - - - -	14,785	19,786	27,015	4,021	41,800	43,807	85,607	81	137	17,077

As to Colour, Religion, Acquaintance with the English Language, and Elementary Education.

Locality.	Blacks.	Whites.	Mulattoes	Total.	Christians.	Mahomedans.	Pagans.	English-speaking.		Can read.		Can read and write.	
								Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Lagos, District A - - -	10,868	55	22	10,915	3,364	4,782	2,769	1,216	710	150	190	945	9
„ District B - - - -	5,871	39	4	5,914	2,351	2,321	1,242	863	618	183	191	622	323
„ District C - - - -	7,373	2	2	7,377	699	3,544	3,134	222	110	100	56	267	55
„ District D - - - -	7,980	28	18	8,026	2,505	3,648	1,873	581	308	87	106	404	226
Ships - - - - -	256	19	1	276	77	—	199	273	—	1	—	35	—
Town and Harbour of Lagos - -	32,288	143	77	32,508	8,996	14,295	9,217	3,155	1,746	521	543	2,273	1,030
Central District (exclusive of Lagos) -	21,807	1	—	21,808	606	4,348	16,854	108	32	56	44	65	14
Eastern District - - - -	9,343	2	1	9,346	277	1,308	7,761	17	5	14	12	29	5
Western District - - - -		4	3	21,945	390	1,157	20,398	91	25	22	23	50	13
Total - -	85,376	150	81	85,607	10,269	21,108	54,230	3,371	1,808	613	622	2,417	1,062

As to AGE and SEX.

Locality.	Under 10 years.		10 years and under 20 years.		20 years and under 30 years.		30 years and under 40 years.		40 years and under 50 years.		50 years and under 60 years.		60 years and under 70 years.		70 years and under 80 years.		80 years and under 90 years.		90 years and upwards.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	ales.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Lagos, District A - -	910	937	1,078	1,026	1,104	1,394	1,015	988	621	554	292	293	171	234	68	107	28	40	30	25
„ District B - -	409	515	670	633	653	723	586	577	292	335	106	138	73	91	21	47	9	23	6	7
„ District C - -	39	595	679	679	773	1,341	610	727	443	350	193	116	92	86	35	50	17	29	11	12
„ District D - -	626	651	631	593	688	1,020	722	840	570	444	248	279	185	218	117	84	37	35	22	16
Ships - - -	—	—	45	—	137	—	82	—	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Town and Harbour of Lagos.	2,484	2,698	3,103	2,931	3,355	4,478	3,015	3,132	1,937	1,683	840	826	521	629	241	288	91	127	69	60
Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	2,049	2,028	1,569	1,602	1,575	2,510	1,925	2,553	2,052	1,548	944	484	392	267	104	80	51	40	21	14
Eastern District - -	1,011	949	769	710	659	1,135	761	1,034	666	464	345	374	167	172	49	81	—	—	—	—
Western District - -	1,969	1,835	1,782	1,691	1,947	2,515	1,964	2,283	1,613	1,449	878	699	578	312	212	90	62	24	30	12
Total - -	7,513	7,510	7,223	6,934	7,536	10,638	7,665	9,002	6,268	5,144	3,007	2,383	1,658	1,380	606	539	204	191	120	86

In consequence of the careful and complete manner in which the Census was for the first time taken, it is possible to show more detailed information as to tribes, ages, education, occupation, &c.

These appear in a very voluminous Report, made by the Superintendent, and published by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, of London Wall.

As to the OCCUPATION of NATIVES and MULATTOES.

OCCUPATION.	Town and Harbour of Lagos.	Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	Eastern District.	Western District.	Total.
Apprentices - -	134	—	1	—	135
Auctioneers - -	4	—	—	—	4
Bag makers - -	—	5	38	226	269
Bakers - -	19	—	—	4	23
Bamboo and thatch-cutters - -	33	47	33	130	243
Barbers - -	22	2	—	2	26
Barristers-at-law (of the English Bar) -	2	—	—	- -	2
Basket makers -	34	12	2	25	73
Blacksmiths -	93	29	15	44	181
Boat and canoe-makers - -	18	—	13	9	40
Bricklayers -	241	1	3	6	251
Brick makers- -	24	105	—	2	131
Butchers - -	73	2	2	10	87
Calabash carvers -	3	—	—	5	8
Canoemen - -	470	120	36	153	779
Carpenters - -	448	7	6	15	476
Civil servants -	407	7	43	59	516
Clerks - -	232	—	5	4	241
Coopers - -	86	3	5	2	96
Dispenser - -	1	-	—	—	1
Domestic servants -	1,395	43	46	149	1,633
Druggist - -	5		—	—	5
Drummers - -	39	9	1	7	56
Dyers - -	1,026	227	48	583	1,884
Engineers - -	9	—	—	-	9
Farmers - -	1,432	5,653	2,321	6,505	15,911
Fetish priests	100	79	17	112	308
Fishermen - -	818	1,593	281	374	3,066
Fish sellers - -	403	789	35	204	1,431

OCCUPATION.	Town and Harbour of Lagos.	Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	Eastern District.	Western District.	Total.
Gold and silver smiths	29	—	—	1	30
Grass preparers -	—	3	—	18	21
Hair plaiters - -	9	9	—	1	19
Hat makers - -	5	7	1	14	27
Horsemen - -	85	1	2	1	89
Hunters - -	8	39	32	13	92
Labourers - -	1,254	68	35	79	1,436
Lime burners - -	14	13	—	—	26
Mahomedan priests -	131	10	13	11	165
Masters of vessels -	2	—	—	—	2
Mat makers - -	24	135	57	497	713
Mate of vessel -	1	—	—	—	1
Mercantile agents -	11	—	2	—	13
Merchants - -	19	—	—	—	19
Ministers of religion -	22	11	—	4	37
Native Chiefs -	9	19	—	4	32
Native doctors -	102	36	9	17	164
Native-food Sellers -	946	2 125	1,404	3,621	8,096
Native hut builders -	5	12	—	—	17
Newspaper editor -	1	—	—	—	1
Painters - -	17	—	—	—	17
Palm-oil makers -	17	1,809	1,700	1,090	4,616
Palm-wine sellers -	3	60	33	41	137
Photographers -	2	—	—	-	2
Pot makers - -	2	3	—	97	102
Printers - -	19	2	—	—	21
Rope makers - -	6	3	—	6	15
Salt makers - -	—	—	8	—	8
Sawyers - -	38	44	9	27	118
Schoolboys - -	2,323	139	71	109	2,642
Schoolgirls - -	1,550	83	34	34	1,701
Schoolmasters -	104	13	1	6	124
Schoolmistresses -	26	4	—	—	30
Seaman - -	20	—	—	—	20
Sempstresses - -	291	6	4	6	307
Shoemakers - -	66	—	—	2	68
Shop attendants -	71	3	—	2	76
Snuff makers - -	20	—	30	23	73
Soap makers - -	4	-	—	14	18

OCCUPATION.	Town and Harbour of Lagos.	Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	Eastern District.	Western District.	Total.
Stokers - -	50	—	—	2	52
Tailors - -	424	36	27	37	524
Tanners - -	38	4	5	26	73
Telegraphists - -	2	—	—	—	2
Thatchers - -	22	—	1	20	43
Traders - -	12,040	3,861	803	3,242	19,946
Washers and ironers -	439	10	6	17	472
Watch and clock repairers - -	4	—	—	—	4
Watchmen - -	54	5	2	19	80
Weavers - -	186	21	15	38	260
Wood sellers -	170	122	9	140	441
Other occupations -	22	3	4	5	34

AREA OF LAGOS AND ITS PROTECTORATE.

The protectorate of Lagos was extended during the year 1891 by the addition of the kingdoms of Pokra, Addo, Ilaro, and Igbessa, situated to the north of the Colony.

The area of these territories is as yet imperfectly known, and the population has been computed for the kingdom of Pokra alone.

EDUCATION.—SCHOOLS.

The following notes on the progress of education during the year have been communicated by Mr. Henry Carr, B.A., Assistant Inspector of Schools for the Colony:—

The great educational event of the year is the revision of the Educational Rules of 1887 and the passing by the Board of Education of "The Amended and Consolidated Education Rules, 1891." Much labour and thought were bestowed on the revision of the old rules by the committee of the Board of Education appointed for the purpose. There were, however, not many changes introduced in the rules relating to primary education, which were chiefly extended in such a manner as to give greater encouragement for sewing amongst the girls and to offer prizes to schools reported as doing the most thorough work.

The distinguishing feature of the new rules is the satisfactory manner in which the question of secondary education has been dealt with. Syllabi of all the subjects required to be taught in secondary schools are drawn up in a schedule incorporated with the rules, and among those subjects special prominence is properly given to natural science (physics, chemistry and biology). It is to be hoped that the inducement thus held out for science teaching will effect a revolution in local education, which has been hitherto exclusively literary and somewhat wanting in concreteness and directness.

As yet there has not been an organised system of technical education. Industrial instruction is given in one of the girls' schools in the form of domestic economy, and in one of the boys' schools practical agriculture is taught on a limited scale.

The annual school inspection and examinations were held in November. The report presented to the Board of Education by Mr. Henry Carr, Deputy Inspector of schools, showed that during the year there were 84 teachers at work in the 30 schools under Government inspection.

The number of departments in these schools was 54, and there was a total roll number of 3,216 children distributed as hereunder among the religious denominations:—

Denomination.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage.
Roman Catholic - -	365	307	672	21
Anglican - - -	1,076	634	1,710	53
Wesleyan - - -	491	247	738	23
Undenominational - -	54	42	96	3
	1,986	1,230	3,216	100

The total roll-number for 1890 was 3,085, the increase per cent. during the year under review being only 4·2. The percentage of increase of 1890 on the preceding year was, however, 23·4. The low rate of increase during 1891 is attributed by the Deputy Inspector to the prevalence of the epidemic of small-pox and the influenza and to the fact that the statistical returns are less inaccurate than those rendered in the previous year.

The problem how to attract a large number of Mohammedan and Pagan children to our schools still remans unsolved. There are only 347 Mohammedan children returned, as against 378 in

1890. The pagan children, however, show an increase of 110, there being 513 returned as against 403 in 1890.

The Government grants in aid of instruction, building expenses, &c. awarded this year amounted to 1,213*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, which is the largest annual sum on record. The system of payment by results initiated in 1888 is still in force, and appears to be the best security for energetic work in a country where there is so much mental indolence.

The Third Annual Competitive Exhibition of School Work was successfully held on the 26th of December. The regulations which governed the exhibition were somewhat more stringent than formerly, but the excellence of the work exhibited has been fully maintained, and in some respects surpassed. As in former exhibitions, the subjects of competition were, (1) plain sewing, (2) darning, (3) fancy needlework, (4) hand writing, (5) ornamental penmanship, (6) map drawing, (7) freehand drawing, (8) perspective of elementary solids, and (9) book-keeping.

There are to be found in the town of Lagos a few private schools which hold a very subordinate position and whose future is not encouraging. The fate awaiting them is either absorption into public denominational schools or total extinction.

FOREIGN CONSULS.

Of the under-mentioned Consuls, Messrs. S. J. Boffa, Philippe Marchelli, and J. D. Fairley no longer reside in the Colony, and have ceased to exercise their powers.

RETURN of CONSULS of Foreign Countries residing in Lagos.

Name of Consul.	Name of the Country which he represents.
S. J. Boffa - - -	Denmark.
Philippe Marchelli - -	France.
Herr Sandquist - -	Germany.
J. D. Fairley - - -	Italy.
G. W. Neville - -	Congo Free State.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The attached table shows the value at the ports of shipment of the Imports and Exports of the Colony of Lagos during each of the 30 years of its existence under the British rule :—

IMPORTS and EXPORTS from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862–1891.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - -	77,932 19 7	61,933 9 4
1863 - -	171,138 13 6	158,341 7 3
1864 - -	120,896 11 3	166,093 8 1
1865 - -	114,284 5 7	175,636 1 2
1866 - -	220,976 4 4	262,692 9 4
1867 - -	321,977 19 10	513,157 18 3
1868 - -	340,815 6 10	517,253 17 11
1869 - -	416,874 3 11	669,598 12 0
1870 - -	400,558 5 9	515,365 14 0
1871 - -	391,653 8 10	589,802 9 7
1872 - -	366,256 0 6	444,848 12 3
1873 - -	258,883 12 6	406,986 7 10
1874 - -	348,636 2 3	486,327 17 6
1875 - -	459,736 19 0	517,535 17 6
1876 - -	476,812 12 8	619,260 0 2
1877 - -	614,359 4 1	734,707 11 6
1878 - -	483,623 8 11	577,336 2 1
1879 - -	527,871 17 1	654,379 11 10
1880 - -	407,369 14 10	576,510 0 9
1881 - -	333,659 9 9	460,007 3 7
1882 - -	428,883 5 11	581,064 1 6
1883 - -	515,393 15 3	594,136 5 0
1884 - -	538,220 19 8	672,413 19 9
1885 - -	542,564 6 5	614,181 1 4
1886 - -	357,831 5 11	538,980 7 2
1887 - -	415,343 7 3	491,468 19 5
1888 - -	442,062 12 8	508,237 19 3
1889 - -	464,259 12 4	457,649 3 1
1890 - -	500,828 0 5	595,193 4 0
1891 - -	607,718 16 3	716,642 17 11

The apparently erratic fluctuations in the above amounts have been caused by three main influences; (*a*) the rapid decrease in the value of palm produce, owing to the discovery of mineral oils; (*b*) the natural variations in seasons by which the oil-palm (Elœis guineensis) is influenced, and (*c*) the eccentric conduct of the middlemen for the interior, whose exactions and arbitrary demands have at irregular intervals blocked the routes upon which the trade of the Colony depends.

For Lagos, in common with all West African Colonies, exists only as a trading station for the native producer, and depends, unfortunately, to a large extent upon the produce of the palm trees of the surrounding tribes.

Under the first of the above headings, it has been found impossible to trace the prices of palm oil and palm kernels since the foundation of the Colony. It suffices, however, to state that in his most prosperous days the palm oil shipper could realize as high a sum as 52*l.* a ton, in the early "sixties," while in May, 1887, the price sank for a time as low as 18*l.* 10*s.*

The following statement of prices realized in England during the past ten years will serve to show how persistent has been the fall in value of the two most important articles of export from the Colony —

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to July 1891.

Palm Oil, per ton.

1881.	£	s.	d.
October	30	5	0
November	29	17	6
December	30	10	0
1882.			
January	30	10	0
February	30	17	6
March	30	12	6
April	31	12	6
May	30	0	0
Ju	30	0	0
July	33	15	0
August	35	10	0
September	36	5	0
October	35	0	0
November	36	0	0
December	35	10	0
1883.			
January	36	15	0
February	39	0	0
March	40	0	0
April	39	0	0
May	36	10	0
June	38	15	0
July	38	15	0
August	42	5	0
September	41	15	0
October	41	2	6
November	40	13	0
December	40	0	0
1884.			
January	40	5	0
February	40	0	0
March	40	0	0
April	33	0	0
May	33	0	0
June	33	10	0
July	34	10	0
August	34	0	0
September	32	10	0
October	31	10	0
December	29	10	0

1885.	£	s.	d.
January	29	0	0
March	28	15	0
April	28	0	0
May	28	5	0
June	27	15	0
July	27	0	0
August	27	12	6
September	27	2	6
October	27	0	0
November	26	0	0
December	25	0	0
1886.			
February	21	0	0
March	23	10	0
April	20	0	0
May	21	15	0
June	21	0	0
July	21	5	0
August	21	7	6
September	22	0	0
October	23	0	0
November	21	10	0
December	22	0	0
1887.			
January	22	0	0
February	20	0	0
March	20	0	0
April	19	10	0
May	18	10	0
June	18	15	0
July	18	15	0
August	20	5	0
September	23	15	0
October	25	10	0
November	27	2	6
December	25	0	0
1888			
January	19	2	6
February	19	12	6
March	21	0	0
April	20	0	0
May	20	0	0

1888—*cont.*	£	s.	d.
June	20	0	0
July	20	0	0
August	20	0	0
September	21	0	0
October	20	0	0
November	19	10	0
December	19	10	0
1889.			
January	23	0	0
February	23	0	0
March	22	0	0
April	22	5	0
May	22	5	0
June	22	5	0
July	22	5	0
August	22	5	0
September	22	5	0
October	23	15	0
November	23	10	0
December	23	10	0
1890.			
January	22	0	0
February	22	5	0
March	23	0	0
April	24	5	0
May	24	5	0
June	24	10	0
July	25	10	0
August	29	0	0
September	29	0	0
October	24	10	0
November	24	10	0
December	24	5	0
1891			
January	24	5	0
February	24	5	0
March	24	10	0
April	24	10	0
May	24	0	0
June	23	15	0
July	25	0	0

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to July 1891.

Palm Kernels, per ton.

	£	s.	d.
1881.			
October	11	12	6
November	11	5	10
December	11	12	6
1882.			
January	11	7	6
February	11	10	0
March	12	0	0
April	11	15	0
May	12	0	0
June	12	0	0
July	12	0	0
August	12	16	6
September	13	0	0
October	13	0	0
November	13	6	3
December	12	15	10
1883.			
January	13	10	0
February	15	0	0
March	14	0	0
April	13	10	0
May	15	8	8
June	15	5	0
July	15	6	6
August	15	13	0
September	15	12	2
October	15	8	0
November	15	15	0
December	15	11	6
1884.			
January	15	15	0
February	15	17	6
March	14	16	3
1884—*cont.*			
April	13	18	0
May	13	11	3
June	14	11	0
July	14	12	6
August	14	1	3
September	13	7	6
October	12	15	0
December	13	15	0
1885.			
February	13	5	0
April	13	10	0
July	11	16	3
September	11	17	6
October	11	10	0
1886.			
February	10	12	6
March	10	17	6
April	10	10	0
June	10	0	0
August	10	2	6
September	9	18	9
October	10	2	6
1887.			
January	10	12	6
March	10	0	0
June	9	10	0
August	9	18	0
September	10	7	6
October	9	15	0
November	10	10	0
1888.			
January	10	13	9
February	8	0	0
March	10	10	0
May	10	0	0
July	10	7	6
August	9	16	3
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6
1889.			
February	10	12	6
April	10	2	0
August	10	6	6
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6
1890.			
January	10	5	0
February	10	15	0
March	10	8	9
May	11	15	0
June	13	0	0
July	12	17	6
September	14	5	0
October	15	7	6
November	12	15	0
December	12	15	0
1891			
March	12	7	0
April	13	2	6
May	12	11	3
June	11	17	6
July	11	13	6

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In spite, however, of this ruinous depreciation of its staple exports, the energy of the Lagos merchants and traders has contrived to maintain the average value of the trade, and to increase its volume proportionately with the fall in price.

This fact is very clearly indicated in the following statement of the quantities of palm produce exported year by year from the Colony since its foundation.

In order to make the comparison more clear the quantity of palm oil has been, by a rough calculation, expressed in tons as well as in gallons.

Year.	Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.	
	Bags.	Tons.	Gallons.	Tons.
1862 -	119	—	528,866	1,763
1863 -	—	2,665	1,361,437	4,538
1864 -	—	4,511	1,163,407	3,878
1865	—	2,630	1,139,858	3,800
1866 -	—	7,216	1,999,066	6,397
1867 -	—	13,619	1,641,634	5,472
1868 -	—	15,498	1,460,746	4,869
1869 -	—	20,394	1,770,991	5,903
1870 -	—	15,894	1,732,448	5,841
1871 -	—	19,375	1,788,425	5,961
1872 -	—	25,870	1,301,150	4,337
1873 -	—	16,410	962,350	3,208
1874 -	—	25,192	1,383,049	4,610
1875 -	—	26,455	1,802,846	6,009
1876 -	—	30,306	1,992,468	6,641
1877 -	—	30,675	3,304,967	11,016
1878 -	—	27,874	1,540,638	5,133½
1879 -	—	26,841	2,469,348	8,231
1880 -	—	29,632	1,496,423	4,988
1881 -	—	20,801	1,807,297	6,024
1882 -	—	28,591	2,637,327	8,791
1883 -	—	25,820	1,971,359	6,571
1884 -	—	29,802	2,382,656	7,942
1885 -	—	30,805	2,657,775	8,859
1886 -	—	34,812	3,097,538	10,322
1887 -	—	35,784	2,506,146	8,354
1888 -	—	43,525	2,467,705	8,225
1889 -	—	32,715	2,349,011	7,830
1890 -	—	38,829	3,200,824	10,669
1891 -	—	42,342	4,204,835	14,016

In the following statements of some of the principal or most interesting items of Import and Export during the past five years are shown, under Exports, such of the minor values as serve to represent industries which are expected to add, in the near future, to the commercial prosperity of the Colony.

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For five years ending 31st December 1891.

Article.	Actual Import.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	722	923	1,088	926	1,315
Ale and porter -	1,253	1,063	1,393	1,455	1,671
Apparel - -	2,113	1,730	1,973	1,746	2,321
Beads - -	2,097	1,250	2,585	2,844	3,632
Books - -	1,443	1,453	1,127	1,459	2,364
Building materials -	10,037	9,275	8,545	11,028	10,411
Geneva - -	43,548	35,369	39,348	47,629	55,515
Gunpowder - -	2,202	2,757	3,820	1,439	4,227
Guns - -	926	1,781	2,630	1,483	2,249
Hardware - -	3,598	4,067	3,543	5,823	9,788
Matchets - -	1,321	899	1,413	771	1,263
Cotton goods -	173,879	188,474	179,334	194,322	262,370
Earthenware -	3,673	5,626	1,924	3,519	7,063
Flour - -	1,381	1,973	1,804	1,794	2,119
Rum - -	20,218	29,717	31,664	32,905	41,343
Salt - - -	8,206	6,661	,184	6,602	7,647
Shooks - -	9,852	11,771	9,438	11,245	15,578
Silk goods - -	2,486	967	1,716	2,991	7,336
Specie - -	8,193	8,284	17,275	1,927	9,259
Silver - -	5,101	17,045	38,260	58,885	69,071
Tobacco - -	16,589	19,388	19,604	15,926	15,402
Twine - -	1,357	1,305	2,273	2,487	3,333
Whiskey - -	464	421	396	469	774
Wines - -	2,402	1,598	2,824	2,258	2,194
Woollen goods -	1,517	1,262	1,972	2,320	3,257

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PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For the five years ending 31st December 1891.

Article.	Transit Import.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£ s.	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	18	0 12	—	33	21
Ale and porter -	96	97 0	176	105	112
Apparel - -	63	—	—	—	4
Beads - -	—	—	—	—	10
Books - -	—	—	—	—	—
Building materials -	39	15 0	19	61	—
Geneva - -	8,646	10,877 0	10,747	2,242	10,931
Gunpowder - -	—	43 0	78	—	110
Guns - -	18	186 0	298	—	—
Hardware - -	72	12 0	61	61	266
Matchets -	76	167 0	8	—	89
Cotton goods -	3,126	4,423 0	4,969	5,610	10,038
Earthenware -	339	201 0	65	396	507
Flour - -	38	41 0	94	336	121
Rum - -	3,314	4,238 0	3,647	4,332	9,254
Salt - -	—	—	13	—	291
Shooks - -	59	—	—	—	—
Silk goods - -	—	—	—	—	—
Specie - -	—	—	—	—	1,550
Silver - -	—	—	—	—	—
Tobacco - -	9,478	4,713 0	7,282	7,827	6,699
Twine - -	—	—	—	—	18
Whiskey - -	—	—	96	11	6
Wines - -	55	98 0	160	80	171
Woollen goods -	—	—	—	—	—

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

For five years ending 31st December 1891.

Article.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	£	£
Benniseed - -	60	290	2,132	3,599	3,028
Cocoa - -	39	117	69	322	332
Coffee - -	—	—	—	34	5
Coprah - -	—	2	2	108	606
Cotton - -	2,093	4,025	8,023	6,063	4,825
Cotton goods - -	20,311	12,992	17,098	16,176	27,531
Country cloths -	5,659	8,746	10,669	10,272	12,318
Cowries - -	805	234	46	3,024	5,061
Geneva - -	13,975	14,393	13,694	3,568	12,117
Gum copal - -	—		—	155	45
Indigo - -	—	1	3	13	10*s.*
					£
Ivory - -	5,822	4,007	4,093	4,183	3,569
Oil palm - -	151,167	123,368	133,723	190,657	252,958
Palm kernels - -	266,960	314,885	239,986	319,276	341,349
Potash - -	529	55	120	393	130
Provisions - -	258	161	593	1,054	1,501
Raphia Vinifera -	—	—	—	8	6
Rum - - -	4,937	5,623	5,335	5,434	11,051
Salt - - -	1,121	1,087	864	279	1,167
Shea Butter - -	1,268	1,200	1,393	1,123	1,905
Shooks - -	483	739	351	1,812	2,922
Specie -	805	450	1,456	9,106	16,284
Tobacco - -	9,899	7,556	9,185	8,989	7,841

It is evident that in a trade which has its foundation on the barter system, the value and quantity of the imports must vary directly with the exports. There is of late years a growing tendency on the part of the native, even in the remote interior, to employ silver currency for his transactions, in place of direct

barter or the cumbrous method of transporting vast quantities of cowrie shells from market to market. It is to be hoped indeed that the "nimble ninepence" will exert its inevitable influence on the natives, and will, in time, supplant the present form of larger currency in the interior—human beings. Hitherto the carrying powers of a slave and his intrinsic value have been in strict relations. He has been the cheque book of the country, and has been necessary for all large payments. Unfortunately he has a trick of dying while passing from hand to hand, and it is probable that the less perishable metallic currency will oust him from the commercial field.

In other ways the gradual adoption of specie payments has modified to a considerable extent the methods of trade in the Colony, and such firms as have adhered to the old barter system have had to remove to less civilized regions. This is very noticable in the case of the French firms who were at one time the leading merchants of Lagos. There are at present few traces of their existence in the Colony except the large factories which were built by them in the days of their prosperity.

The establishment of a branch of the African Banking Corporation, Limited, which took place towards the close of the year, will have a very remarkable effect on trade by increasing specie transactions, and even more, by encouraging shipments by small traders to whom money is advanced on the security of insured produce or invoiced European goods.

The attention of the natives has been directed lately to the importance of developing minor industries. Among these may be mentioned the cultivation of cocoa and coffee, which has been taken up both by the natives and in one instance, on a large scale, by European enterprise. Even more importance is now attached to cotton, which is cultivated in large quantities in the interior of Yoruba for home manufacture. During the current year, one of the obstructing tribes, who prevented direct communication with the "hinterland" has been forced to open its roads, and it is to be hoped that the shipments of cotton, which amounted to 379,300 lbs., of a value at the port of shipment of 4,825*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, during the past year, will in 1893 be very largely increased.

Yoruba cotton is of fair quality and competes at an advantage in price with most Indian cottons.

Another important industry which awaits development is the "African Piassava" fibre, which, under less advantageous circumstances, has already established itself on other parts of the Guinea coast.

The *Raphia vinifera*, or palm-wine palm, from which this valuable fibre is produced, is even more abundant in some portions of the Colony than the oil palm; growing, as it does, in the immediate neighbourhood of the waterways of the Colony, it should in time become an important addition to the exports from the port of Lagos.

Tonnage of Sailing and Steam Vessels.

Fifteen Sailing vessels entered at the ports of the Colony in 1891 of a tonnage of 4,932 tons and with crews amounting to 152.

Twelve sailing vessels cleared, of a tonnage of 3,636, and with crews amounting to 119 men.

Four hundred and four steam vessels entered, of a tonnage of 297,592, and with crews amounting to 12,376 men.

Four hundred and five steam vessels cleared, of a tonnage of 296,037 and with crews amounting to 12,810 men.

The totals of vessels entered and cleared were as follows :—

	Tons.
Vessels entered - - - -	302,529
„ cleared - - - -	299,673

The totals for 1890 were :—

	Tons.
Vessels entered - - - -	279,418
„ cleared - - - -	276,444

Return of Lands granted and sold.

During the year a most important work, as bearing on the security of property in the island of Lagos, was completed by the Ordnance Survey carried out under the supervision of Lieutenant Buckland by a party of Royal Engineers. Pending the completion of this work land grants from the Crown within the limits of the island have been practically in abeyance. It is now, however, proposed to take up the question on a large scale in view of the numbers of applications which have accumulated.

Under Ordinance No. 15 of 1877, intituled "An Ordinance to "make better provision for the filling up of swamp lands in the "town of Lagos," grants of such lands are made to applicants on condition that they shall be properly filled in and improved to the satisfaction of the Colonial Surveyor within a fixed period from the date of the grant.

By this means large tracts of swampy land within the town of Lagos have been gradually reclaimed without expense to the Government, and now that the work can be undertaken in a more systematic manner and on a larger scale, it is to be hoped that these centres of malaria will be eventually done away with.

All Crown grants or sales of Crown land are made with due consideration for the claims of native occupants.

I have been kindly permitted by Chief Justice Smalman Smith, whose experience in matters relating to local customs make his opinion of very unusual value, to extract portions of an important judgment delivered by him in the Supreme Court of the Colony,

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in which is set forth clearly for the first time the native system of land tenure before the occupation of the Colony by the British, as well as the results of the grafting of these old Yoruba customs on the English law.

Under section 19 of the Supreme Court Ordinance of 1876 the Court is clothed with authority to enforce the observance of any native law or custom not being repugnant to natural justice, equity, and good conscience, especially in causes or matters relating, *inter alia*, to the tenure and transfer of real and personal property.

This lucid description is of the greater value as applying, with local modifications, to the whole of the tribes of Yoruba land, whose complicated system of savage feudalism, tempered by priestcraft and, strange to say, by popular acclaim, deserves the close study of ethnologists.

"The absolute ownership of territory has never, so far as my experience teaches me, been acknowledged in this Yoruba land as inherent in the sovereignty of the kings of the country, but there is undoubtedly a national proprietary right which is vested in the king and his chiefs or council, as representing the community who elect and appoint them originally, and who conjointly may exercise the right of alienation. The titles of king and chief descend generally according to the native law of inheritance, but not necessarily. The chiefs as a body with their king can depose a chief, as the chiefs may depose a king. It is unnecessary to inquire closely into the methods adopted, suffice it that they are generally summary and effective. The white-capped chiefs who are charged by the king and the community with the disposal of land have each allotted to them a portion of territory within which they might exercise their powers. These powers are described by the white-capped Chief Faro in his evidence. Faro was made a white-capped chief in the time of King Adele of Lagos (1832-34); he was chief of Ojora and was deposed by Governor Glover in 1864 for attempting to enforce his control over land, contrary to the established law. He states that he is now a white-capped Chief of Lagos. He says: 'The white capped chiefs have the power to dispose of land. They cannot sell land and no chief 'could sell land. If land is given to a man and he builds on it a 'house he could not be turned out if he did not do anything 'wrong (that is to say, for example, if he took the wife of a chief or 'tried to poison the chief who gave him the land). If he died and 'left no heir, but had slaves living on the land, the slaves could 'not have authority over the land. The chiefs would give 'some one else authority over the land and the slaves, and the 'land would descend in the same way as before, subject only to 'good conduct. The slaves who live on the land, as long as they 'live in the house may live there, but they have no rights as against 'their master or his family, and might be turned out if they misbe-'haved.'

"The foregoing is a crude but tolerably accurate statement of the native law. As a rule the tenure of land among this people

represented merely the right to the beneficial use of the land, subject to the obligation of service to the chief who granted it or the payment of tribute as the case may be. The chief could neither alienate the land nor dispossess the grantee, so long as these obligations were fulfilled. Should the grantee cease to cultivate the land, or abandon it, all his rights therein were determined, and the chief could re-grant the land (Woodcock, A. P. J. judgment in Callamand *v.* Vaughan, June 20, 1878).

" In the event of the occupier dying without heirs, the chief had the power to grant the land afresh, subject to the obligations with which the land may have been burdened or charged, during the time of his predecessors. Such was the position of Ogubiyi, when this land was granted to him by Ashogbon Odunran in 1850. There is no alternative or other tenure, such as that of 'caretaker' mentioned in the petition, known to the native law, and there is no evidence to support such a contention. How then were these rights affected by the cession of Lagos? Under the treaty of August 6, 1861 between Docemo and his chiefs and the British Government, Docemo with the consent and advice of his council, gave, transferred, granted and confirmed unto the Queen of Great Britain, her heirs and successors, for ever, the port and island of Lagos, with all the rights, profits, territories and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging; and as well the profit and revenue as the direct, full and absolute dominion and sovereignty of the said port, island, and premises, with all the royalties thereof freely, fully, entirely and absolutely.

" The rights of sovereignty of the king and chiefs of Lagos over the territory of Lagos and its dependencies, were by that Treaty ceded to the Queen, and if the grantee has died subsequently to 1861 *without heirs*, the land would have reverted, not to the chiefs as formerly, but to the Queen. The rights of the chiefs (except so far as those rights were private acquired rights) to dispose of land, or dispossess those who occupied the land, under a good title by native law, usage or custom, then and there ceased to exist, and the rights of such occupiers became, if they were not then in fact vested, simultaneously with the abolition of slavery.

" It must not be supposed that every description of tenure by service is included in this proposition. I have repeatedly affirmed by judgments in this Court the rights of private owners of land to recover possession thereof where there is a tenure by service or by rent or tribute, and the service (being a lawful service, S. 19. S. C. O. 1876), rent or tribute is refused by the tenant, and when such a tenant deliberately applies himself to injure or annoy his chief or his family.

" Further, there are usages and customs relating to the conditions under which land may be used or occupied, peculiar to certain localities; to which I need only refer in passing. (*See* judgment of Marshall, J., in Idewu *v.* Ogubiyi, May 9, 1878.)"

The question of land wrongfully acquired by squatting and encroachments on the public streets and squares will be dealt with on the lines indicated by the Survey. It will also be of very great value in helping the carrying out of street improvements undertaken in portions of the native town which are from time to time devastated by destructive fires. On payment of due compensation except in the case of encroachments, the Government has power to lay out, widen and otherwise alter streets on the sites of such fires. By this means wide roads are gradually being extended throughout the town, and the intricate bye ways which delight the heart of the native, and foster prevalent diseases, are being gradually replaced by thoroughfares.

The importance of the Survey as a record for the guidance of the Court in property cases must also be very great.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of prisoners committed during 1891 was 180, as compared with 215 in 1890, 328 in 1889, 268 in 1888, 264 in 1887, 262 in 1886, 225 in 1885, 225 in 1884, 274 in 1883, 232 in 1882, 222 in 1881, 351 in 1880, 425 in 1879, 313 in 1878.

There is very little doubt that the effects of the solitary system can be clearly traced in the above figures. So long as the associated wards, which have now been replaced by a model prison based on the English system, were in existence the happy burglar looked upon his periods of retirement from more active enterprise as a very reasonable price to pay for the privileges of his profession.

Not only have the prisoners been reduced in numbers by the introduction of more rigorous regulations, but they have had the advantage of learning various trades, during their employment on the construction of their own prison, and of late years very excellent work has been done and taught in bricklaying, bookbinding, carpentering, tailoring, and basket, brush screen, and mat making from local fibres. Their skill in these trades will now compare very well with that of European artizans, and not a few are in consequence enabled to earn an honest livelihood on leaving gaol. In this connection it must be observed that imprisonment seems to convey no sense of dishonour or shame to the friends of the guilty party, unless it be at the discreditable fact of his having so mismanaged his affairs as to have been caught and convicted. With the prospects of a hospitable "hinterland" in which to seek refuge, and the absence of social restraints, it is to be wondered at that the percentage of crime to population is so small.

The offences most in vogue in the Colony are shown in the attached tables of criminal statistics.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

I.—OFFENCES

Table showing the number of Offences reported to the Police or the Magistrates during 1891.

Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Property other than Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences.
29	1	—	28	—

II.—APPREHENSIONS AND SUMMONSES.

Table showing the Number of Persons brought before the Magistrates' Court by Arrest, Warrant or Summons for Offences, and how their Cases were disposed of in the Magistrates' Court.

—	Number Discharged for Want of Prosecution by the party complaining or for want of evidence.	Number of Cases dismissed on the Merits.	Number of Persons summarily Convicted.	Number of Persons committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
Offences against the person	49	21	69	27
Cattle stealing and arson	1	—	5	—
Offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson - -	24	10	106	23
Offences against Master and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies -	6	—	11	—
Other offences - -	25	21	221	1
Total number of persons summoned or apprehended - -	105	52	412	65

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III.—SUMMARY CONVICTIONS.

Table showing the number of Summary Convictions for various classes of offences, and the kind of Punishments Inflicted.

Punishments.	Total number of offences.	Assaults and other offences against the person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Property other than malicious injuries to Property or Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Revenue Acts, Highway Acts, Health Acts, and other Acts relating to the Social Economy of the Colony.	Offences against Master and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to Indentured Coolies.	Other Offences.
Fine - - - -	173	40	1	—	2	53	1	76
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety - - -	5	2	—	—	—	1	—	2
Peremptory imprisonment -	124	12	—	5	85	—	—	22
Whipping - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bound over with or without sureties or other trivial punishment - - -	32	7	—	—	4	2	10	9
Total - -	334	61	1	5	91	56	11	109

IV.—Indictments and Informations in the Superior Courts.

Including courts analogous to the courts of Quarter Sessions in England—i.e., District Courts.

——	Total.	Murder, other than Wife and Child Murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt to Murder.	Murder of Wife, reputed Wife, or Concubine.	Child Murder.	Concealment of Birth.	Abortion.	Rape.	Unnatural Crimes.	Other offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Robbery with Violence.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.
Judgment for the Crown - - -	48	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	19	—	2	—	13	9
Judgment for the Prisoner - -	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	4	—
Prisoners found Insane - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Case fell through for want of Prosecution, including cases where Nolle Prosequi entered by Queen's Advocate -	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—

V.—COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions and Acquittals, for the last four years.

—	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
Number of offences reported to the police - -	29	51	22	25
Number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrate.	634	724	708	728
Number of summary convictions—				
1. For offences against the person - -	62	84	86	136
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	5	—	10	13
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	93	101	81	89
4. For other offences - - - -	174	212	105	126
Number of convictions in the Superior Court—				
1. For offences against the person - -	24	27	23	15
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	—	—	1	—
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	15	23	19	38
4. For other offences - - - -	9	14	8	17
The number of persons acquitted—				
1. In the Inferior Courts - - -	157	180	270	255
2. In the Superior Courts - - -	17	25	36	26

HOSPITAL RETURNS, &c.

The following interesting notes on the sanitary and vital statistics have been communicated by the Acting Colonial Surgeon, Dr. W. R. Henderson, and by the Chief Registrar of Courts, Mr. J. A. O. Payne :—

During the year, 801 in-patients were treated in the General Hospital, and of these 72 died, being a percentage of 8·89. The diseases which caused the largest mortality were those of the respiratory and digestive systems, the most serious disease of the respiratory organs being pneumonia, and of the digestive system dysentery. A large number of the deaths from pneumonia may be credited to the epidemic of influenza which prevailed towards the end of the year ; as this epidemic followed one of small-pox, this year has been marked by a mortality considerably above the average. Of the patients treated 37 were Europeans, but no

deaths occurred; the majority of the diseases were fevers and disorders of the digestive system.

In the contagious diseases hospital, 94 patients were treated, 74 were cases of small-pox and 20 other infectious diseases. Amongst the small-pox patients there was a death-rate of 21·6 per cent., 488 small-pox patients received treatment at their own homes, and of these 37, or 7·58 per cent., died; but as registration of death was not then compulsory these figures are of little value. The difference in the death-rate may, however, be in some measure due to the fact that nearly all those who went into hospital were Krooboys who had newly arrived in Lagos, and consequently were not vaccinated, whereas the majority of the people in the town had been operated on by the public vaccinator, and in such casse the disease was of a much milder type.

In the town of Lagos vaccination has been actively performed, 15,089 persons having been operated on during the year.

In addition to the in-patients who were treated in the general and contagious diseases hospitals, 2,519 out-patients received treatment at the general hospital, and 3,398 received treatment at Ereko dispensary.

The NUMBER LIVING of the WHITE POPULATION at each of the last TWO CENSUSES completed, arranged according to ages.

1881.

109 Males. Ages.					8 Females. Total 117. Ages.
25	37	32	28	28	25
30	32	27	26	26	39
22	44	26	41	22	30
20	36	29	28	44	33
30	30	27	17	58	21
41	25	19	18	24	24
66	25	35	26	26	26
26	26	19	22	24	22
40	55	20	29	46	
20	19	38	23	60	8
19	23	39	40	53	
18	20	28	44	27	
42	18	26	37	49	
41	19	45	24	32	
22	45	18	37	36	
34	46	39	33	49	
34	32	24	27	26	
37	21	29	41	45	
34	20	22	41	50	
31	34	31	57	48	
30	21	31	28	55	
34	19	27	32		
—	—	—	—	109	

1891.

134 males, 16 females; total 150. Ages varied; cannot be ascertained owing to schedules not available.

The number living of the white population at the end of each of the intervening years; these appear to be enumerated each year irrespective of ages.

No record kept and impossible to be ascertained owing to constant changes and removals.

The deaths among the white population during each of the two census years and each intervening year with the ages at death specified:—

Year.	Male.		Female.		Total.	Ages.
	Resident.	Visitor.	Resident.	Visitor.		
1881	7	3	0	0	10	23, 27, 40, 46, 56, 32, 50, 36, 30, 31.
1882	3	1	0	0	4	32, 18, 21, 26.
1883	8	3	0	0	11	34, 32, 30, 45, 51, 23, 28, 45, 40, 28, 49.
1884	10	1	0	0	11	33, 40, 47, 29, 22, 41, 4½, 25, 33, 3½, 28.
1885	5	3	0	0	8	33, 34, 45, 35, 40, 27, 40, 40.
1886	7	2	0	0	9	30, 34, 52, 70, 40, 26, 35, 30, 24.
1887	6	3	0	1	10	75, 39, 37, 33, 32, 25, 31, 40, 30, 37.
1888	10	0	1	0	11	37, 35, 32, 65, 24, 31, 33, 29, 48, 41, 25.
1889	9	0	2	0	11	32, 30, 37, 24, 45, 50, 54, 35, 30, 50, 37.
1890	3	1	1	0	5	22, 38, 35, 30, 31.
1891	2	4	2	0	8	33, 21½, 22, 28, 27, 20, 27, 27.

N.B.—In 1881 the deaths include 1 male Missionary of the C.M.S.

1884.—2 Male Roman Catholic Missionaries.

1885.—1 Do. Do.

1886.—1 Colonial Engineer of Lagos.
1 Doctor of s.s. "Fragot."

1887.—1 Male Catholic Missionary.
1 Colonial Surgeon of Lagos.
1 Foreman of Works of Lagos.

1888.—1 Gaoler of Lagos.
1 Italian Consul (suicide).
1 Male Missionary of the C.M.S.
1 Surveyor General of Lagos Government.
1 Colonial Engineer.
1 Barrister-at-Law.

1889.—2 Captains of branch steamers of the African Steamship Company
1 Engineer, branch steamer.
1 Female Missionary, American Baptist.

1890.—1 Captain, German Army.
1 Male Missionary, C.M.S.
1 Captain, branch steamer.

1891.—1 Physician, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 Male teacher, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 Lieutenant, Imperial German Army.
1 Captain of the Artillery, Belgian Army, from Congo (suicide).
2 Sisters of Mercy, Roman Catholic Mission.

SAVINGS BANK (TREASURY).

The number of depositors during 1891 was 233 as compared with 181 in 1890. The amount of deposits and withdrawals during the year reached 5,195*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* and 4,427*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with 4,217*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* and 2,277*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* in 1890, and the total amount at the credit of the depositors at the end of the year was 6,130*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* as compared with 5,363*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*

It was expected that the establishment of a bank in the Colony would considerably affect the amount invested in the Savings Bank, but up to the close of the year this does not seem to have been the case, a slight increase in all branches of the savings banks business being indicated by the above figures. This was, however, in all probability due to the prosperous state of trade during the year.

(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Lagos,
1st August 1892.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 95.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No 58.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December 1893.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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1893.

[C.—6857.-45.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
59	Straits Settlements	1891
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 95.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 58.]

Acting Governor DENTON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Lagos,
September 29, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1892, together with a report on it which has been prepared by Mr. Alvan Millson, Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. The year to which the publication bears reference was in every way a very trying one to Lagos, and it is gratifying to find the marked manner in which the trade of the Colony has benefited by the increased facilities for communication with the interior countries brought about by the Jebu Expedition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE C. DENTON.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
September 28, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies six copies of the Lagos Blue Book for 1892, together with my report on the returns rendered by the various heads of Departments.

I regret that unavoidable circumstances should have caused an unexpected delay in the completion of this return.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency George Chardin Denton, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Acting Governor.

I 78909. Wt. 10230.

LAGOS. 1892.

REPORT on the LAGOS BLUE BOOK for 1892.

DUTIES.

The increase in Customs duties on spirits, initiated by Ordinance No. 4 of 1891, was continued by the enactment on the 22nd of June, 1892, of "An Ordinance to consolidate and "amend Customs Tariff Ordinances."

By this law all previous Customs Ordinances of the Colony were repealed, the duty on spirits was raised from 8*d.* to 1*s.* the gallon, on tobacco from 2½*d.* to 3*d.* a pound, and the *ad valorem* duty on goods was increased from 4 to 5 per cent.

Some slight alterations were made in the table of exemptions, and the drawbacks upon exportation of dutiable articles to Porto Novo were arranged to suit the new scale of charges.

The following tables show the Customs dues, at the close of the year, of the Colony and its French and German neighbours of Porto Novo, the Cameroons, and Togoland.

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

Lagos (English).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in		
	English Money.	German Money.	French Money.
	s. d.	Mks. Pf.	Fcs. Cts.
On wines, liqueurs, brandy and cordials of any sort, the Imperial gallon	1 0	1 0	1 25
On spirits, not being liqueurs, brandy, or cordials, the Imperial gallon	1 0	1 0	1 25
Such spirits not exceeding, if imported in wood, the strength of Sykes' Hydrometer and so in proportion of any greater strength.			
On tobacco, the pound	0 3	0 25	0 31·25
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in bottles, the dozen	0 9	0 75	0 93·75
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in wood, the Imperial gallon	0 4½	0 37	0 46·25
On cigars, the thousand	5 0	5 0	6 25
On Cowries, the hundredweight	1 0	1 0	1 25
On salt, the ton	5 0	5 0	6 25
On gunpowder, the barrel	2 0	2 0	2 50
On guns, each	1 0	1 0	1 25
On pistols, each	0 6	0 50	0 62

On all other goods of every description, not enumerated, an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. on the value of the goods at the port from which the same shall have been imported

Table of Exemptions.

All goods imported by the Governor for his private use.

All goods imported with the sanction of the Governor for the service of any public Department of the Colony.

Books, newspapers, and printed matter.

Copybooks, drawing books and materials, and apparatus and other educational materials and apparatus imported, with the sanction of the Governor, for the use of any school or mission.

Mathematical, scientific, and surgical instruments.

Photographic apparatus and materials.

British coins and other coins current in the Colony.

Building and roofing materials, including stone, bricks, timber, planks, doors, shutters, metal plates or piles, roof slates and tiles, white lime, cement, house paint, and paint brushes, door locks, keys, hinges, nails, screws, bolts and bars, window frames, glass and fastenings, artizans' tools, and all such other building or roofing materials or stores as the Governor by writing given under his hand and published in the Gazette shall have declared to be building or roofing materials or stores for the purposes of the Ordinance.

Passengers' luggage.

Packages in which goods are usually imported.

Puncheon shooks, including the iron hoops and rivets or hooks, required for making them up.

Telegraphic stores, instruments, machinery, plant, and gear within the meaning of Ordinance No. 7 of 1891.

Porto Novo (French).

Articles.	Weights and Measures.	Amount of Duty in		In English	
		French Money.	German Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
		Fcs. Cts.	Mks. Pfs.		*s. d.*
Geneva :—					
30° (Gay Lussac) - - - -	per 1 to 8 litres	2 0	1 60	per gallon	0 10
From 30° to 50° (Gay Lussac) - -	„	3 0	2 40	„	1 3
Above in proportion - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Spirits of any other description:—					
1° to 30° (Gay Lussac) - -	per 100 litres	10 0	8 0	per 12½ gallons.	4 2
From 30° to 50° (Gay Lussac) - -	„	15 0	12 0	„	6 3
Above in proportion - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Tobacco, including cigars - - -	per kilog.	0 35	0 28	per lb.	0 1¾
Arms and Ammunition (prohibited) -	—	—	—	—	—
Other Articles (free) - - -	—	—	—	—	—

Cameroon (German).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in			In English.	
	German Money.	French Money.	English Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
	Mks. Pfg.	Fcs. Cts.	*s. d.*		*s. d.*
Geneva, per litre:—					
Up to 49°	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	per gallon	0 9½
Rum, per litre:—					
Up to 49°	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	„	0 9½
Over 49°	0 40	0 50	0 4·8	„	1 7
Alcohol, per litre:—					
Up to 49°	0 20	0 25	0 2.4	„	0 9½
Over 49°	0 40	0 50	0 4·8	„	1 7
Other spirits in bottles, per litre	0 40	0 50	0 4·8	„	1 7
„ „ casks, „	0 30	0 38	0 3·6	„	1 2·4
Guns, each	2 50	3 13	2 6	each	2 6
Common trade powder, per kilog.	0 15	0 19	0 1·8	per 100 lbs.	7 6
Other powder, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	„	10 0
Tobacco, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	per lb.	0 1·2
Salt, per ton	10 0	12 50	10 0	per ton.	10 0
Rice, per kilog.	0 02	0	0 2·4	per lb.	0 0·12
Cotton, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	„	0 1·2

Togo-land (German).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in			In English.	
	German Money.	French Money.	English Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
	Mks. Pfs.	Fcs. Cts.	*s. d.*		*s. d.*
Geneva, per case of 8 litres=2 gallons:—					
Below 40°	0 64	0 80	0 $7\frac{3}{4}$	per gallon	0 $3\frac{3}{4}$
From 40° to 60°	0 96	1 20	0 $11\frac{1}{2}$	„	0 6
Above 60°	1 60	2 0	1 $7\frac{1}{4}$	„	0 10
Rum, per litre:—					
Below 40°	0 $3\frac{2}{10}$	0 4	0 0·384	„	0 0·2
From 40° to 60°	0 $4\frac{8}{10}$	0 6	0 0·576	„	0 0·3
Above 60°	0 8	0 10	0 1	„	0 0·5
Tobacco, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	per lb.	0 1·2
Gunpowder, per 100 lbs.	5 0	6 25	5 0	per 100 lbs.	5 0
Guns, each	1 0	1 25	1 0	each	1 0
Salt, per 1,000 kilos.	8 0	10 0	8 0	per ton	8 0

Owing to the difference in the alcoholimeters in use in these Colonies, which are, at Lagos, Sykes'; at Porto Novo, Gay Lussac's; and in the German territories, Tralles', and also to the different methods adopted of calculating rates of proportionate increase, it is difficult to show in a comparative table the relative rates of the different ports of entry, but the following statements will serve to illustrate the practical results as far as Lagos and Porto Novo are concerned.

Spirits, &c.	Measure.	Strength.	Lagos.	Porto Novo.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Alcohol - - -	per puncheon of 100 Imperial Gallons.	60 per cent. over proof (Sykes).	8 0 0	8 5 0
Rum - - -	„	21 per cent. under proof (Sykes.)	5 0 0	2 16 0
Gin - - -	per case of 1⅝ gallons	42 per cent. under proof (Sykes.)	0 1 8	0 2 5
Rum - - -	per demijohn of 2 gallons.	21 per cent. under proof (Sykes.)	0 2 0	0 1 1
Old Tom Gin - -	per 2 gallons - -	—	0 2 0	0 2 10
Cordials - - -	„	—	0 2 0	0 1 0
Wines - - -	„	—	0 2 0	0 0 6

RENTS.

Wharfage.

By Ordinance No. 7, 1892, entitled "An Ordinance to abolish "wharfage dues upon goods landed at or shipped from a Custom "House Pier" the tolls and dues, which had been in force during the first half of the year, were abolished, and the landing of goods became free.

The actual amount lost by the Government from the 22nd of June until the end of the year amounted to 1,248*l.*, but this was covered to a considerable extent by the additional 1 per cent. *ad valorem* duty which had been imposed for that purpose.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Treasurer of the Colony, when forwarding the financial statement for the year, made the following report on the statistics of income and expenditure:—

The revenue for the year amounted to 68,421*l.*

The expenditure for the same period being 86,513*l.*, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of 18,092*l.*

At the close of the year there was an excess of assets over liabilities of 22,604*l.*

Revenue.

The actual receipts, 68,421*l.*, failed to realise the estimate, 68,455*l.*, by 34*l.*

But for the fact that in June the duty on spirits was increased from 8*d.* to 1*s.* the gallon, on tobacco from 2½*d.* to 3*d.* the pound, and the *ad valorem* duty from 4 per cent to 5 per cent., our receipts would have fallen much below the estimates.

This sudden decrease in the revenue is to be attributed to the attitude assumed by the Jebus towards this Government, which rendered an expedition against that people necessary and caused the stoppage of all trade between the Colony and the interior for the greater portion of the year.

The receipts under reimbursements and internal revenue were generally in excess of the estimates, the more important being:—

	£
Licenses - - - - -	326
Fees, &c. - - - - -	428
Postal Revenue - - - -	94
Miscellaneous - - - - -	536

These excesses are mainly due:—

(1.) To the vigilance of Customs officers in the previous year, and to various fines and penalties imposed, amounting to 80*l.*

(2.) To greater activity in the Courts, 56*l.* Refund on account of the services of mechanics in making alterations to the old Treasury premises, 111*l.*, and to fees received under the Weights and Measures Ordinance and refunded to officers entitled thereto, 111*l.*

(3.) To additional postal transactions consequent on the reduction of postal rates and increased sale of stamps to meet the requirements of the Stamp Duty Ordinance, 172*l.*

(4.) To the passing to general revenue of unclaimed deposits standing in the books of the Colony for over five years, 536*l.*, and to recovery of over payments in previous years, 66*l.*

The only important items which failed to realise the estimate were those under "Harbour, Wharfage, and Lighthouse Dues." This head of receipt fell short of the estimate by 1,341*l.*, consequent on the abolition in June of all wharfage dues, 1,248*l.*, and the exemption of south-west coast steamers bringing mails from the payment of lighthouse dues. These changes were not contemplated at the time the estimates were framed.

Expenditure.

	£
The expenditure during the year amounted to -	86,513
whilst the estimate was - - - -	69,744
showing an excess over the estimate of - -	£16,769

The excesses under the various heads amounted in the gross to - - - - - -	18,436
against which must be set off as savings under other heads - - - - - -	1,667
	£16,769

The more important excesses occurred under the following heads :—

	£
Treasury - - - - -	354
Customs - - - - -	974
Printing Office - - - - -	303
Harbour Master's Department - - -	881
Government Vessels - - - -	343
Educational - - - - -	105
Constabulary - - - - -	845
Transport - - - - -	674
Aborigines - - - - -	171
Miscellaneous - - - - -	257
Colonial Surveyor's Department - - -	273
Public Works Recurrent - - -	7,805
Special - - - - - -	5,404

which may be attributed :—

(1.) *Treasury.*

To unestimated salary of the late Treasurer, Mr. Elliott, 184*l.*, and interest on saving bank deposit for 1891, being carried to account in 1892, 123*l.*

(2.) *Customs.*

To drawback claims of 1891, being paid in 1892, 330*l.*, and to the increased duty on spirits whilst the transit rate remained the same.

(3.) *Printing.*

To the printing of the School and Census reports, 67*l.*, 1885 Blue Book, 70*l.*; and to judicial forms, 184*l.*, improperly charged to this vote.

(4.) *Harbour Department.*

To expenses in connexion with the survey of the Bar, 737*l*; buoying channels for safe navigation, 96*l.*; and the erection of flagstaffs in newly acquired territories, 94*l.*

(5.) *Government Vessels.*

To increased transport services performed by the Government vessels consequent on the Jebu Expedition, 391*l.*

(6.) *Education.*

To Education Grant of 1891, being paid in 1892, 1214*l.*, and expenses on account of the school exhibition of 1891 and 1892, 46*l.*

(7.) *Constabulary.*

To the force being increased, 1,170*l.*, and ammunition required for the Jebu Expedition, 193*l.*

(8.) *Transport.*

To additional transport and travelling allowances granted on account of the Jebu Expedition.

(9.) *Aborigines.*

To the salary and allowances of a travelling Commissioner, not estimated for, 345*l.*, and initial expenses in connexion with the Governor's expedition to the interior in 1893 and provided for in that year's estimates, 216*l.*

(10.) *Miscellaneous.*

To fees paid officers under the Weights and Measures Ordinance, 113*l.*, and transactions in connexion with remittances to England and interest on advances, 119*l.*

(11.) *Surveyor's Department.*

To increased salaries sanctioned and payments on account of 1891 made in 1892, 132*l.*, and allowance for two students in Jamaica for 1891, paid in 1892, 88*l.*

(12.) *Public Works Recurrent.*

To the building of a new house at Badagry, wrongly charged to this vote 298*l.*

To the clearing of the Addo River, 399*l.*; the extensions of the Customs Pier, also charged to this vote, 4,834*l.*, and votes for cement, timber, and other materials being under-estimated.

(13.) *Special.*

To its becoming necessary to take the field against the Jebus and the Governor's Expedition to Ondo.

The principal votes under which a saving was effected are:—

	£
Governor - - - - -	121
Prisons - - - - - -	236
Medical - - - - - -	112
Public Works extraordinary - - -	825

which may be explained as follows:—

(1. U ndrawn salary of Private Secretary, 154*l.*

(2.) Votes for bedding, 35*l.*; rations for prisoners, 159*l.*; hospital rations 22*l.* over estimated.

(3.) To disallowance of personal allowance to Dr. Rowland, 100*l.*, and supplies of 1892, paid for in 1893, 58*l.*

(4.) To work on New Hospital being deferred and to work done on the Marina Embankment, officers' quarters, and water latrines, being below the estimates.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862 to 1892.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - -	7,130 6 8	6,510 14 2
1863 - -	16,708 2 7	15,837 0 5
1864 - -	21,335 8 0	22,805 14 11

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862 to 1892—*continued.*

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1865 - -	24,081	10	8	24,095	4	10
1866 - -	23,816	11	8	23,602	9	8
1867 - -	29,974	13	11	30,195	8	1
1868 - -	33,895	15	11	33,711	14	6
1869 - -	40,438	2	2	39,431	0	6
1870 - -	41,683	14	10	42,379	0	10
1871 - -	45,612	2	9	45,611	14	4
1872 - -	41,346	0	10	41,346	7	1
1873 - -	52,240	1	2	52,225	1	8
1874 - -	39,335	14	5	37,296	18	5
1875 - -	43,336	13	0	44,379	12	0
1876 - -	46,448	1	2	45,170	8	9
1877 - -	59,389	16	0	42,305	7	5
1878 - -	50,889	0	0	49,736	0	0
1879 - -	54,939	12	7	45,934	18	10
1880 - -	47,987	1	1	55,475	14	2
1881 - -	42,421	12	8	45,461	13	10
1882 - -	44,636	4	9	44,039	2	11
1883 - -	50,558	15	8	37,879	9	3
1884 - -	57,932	5	6	44,683	11	9
1885 - -	63,504	18	11	40,313	13	2
1886 - -	53,507	2	11	55,383	2	0
1887 - -	51,346	14	6	78,610	9	11
1888 - -	57,057	16	11	60,840	3	10
1889 - -	57,633	3	8	57,488	1	2
1890 - -	56,340	13	1	63,700	16	3
1891 - -	78,624	18	4	66,388	3	11
1892 - -	68,421	9	4	86,513	8	2

CONSTABULARY.

The Houssa Constabulary Force and Police Force of the Colony were added to with the intention of raising them from 250 to 500, and from 170 to 220 non-commissioned officers and men.

Recruiting was, of necessity, slow, and the actual cost of the Force, including clerks, &c., was only increased from 13,625*l.* to 14,926*l.*

The men are armed with Snider breech-loading rifles, which proved to be sufficiently effective during the Jebu war. A certain number of picked men are each year sent for gunnery training to England, and have shown fair proficiency in action with machine guns and 7-pounder field pieces.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The chief works on hand during 1892 are shown in the attached list.

Of these the Mohammedan cemetery wall, and that of the Ikoyi cemetery, surround plots of land measuring 9 acres and 9 acres 2 rods in extent respectively.

The telephone was completed early in 1893 and is a great convenience to all the Government offices. It is proposed at an early date to extend the system widely among the various classes of the mercantile community.

The work of perhaps most importance, from a sanitary point of view, is the Marina Embankment wall, which now extends along the frontage of the island for a length of over 2 miles. An annual vote is made for its extension, and the work will be continued until the whole town is protected from the unhealthy influences of a foreshore exposed to the tropical sun at every tide.

Other important work was done during the year on the roads, streets, and bridges of the Island.

The remaining works are connected with the general scheme for the construction of the necessary public buildings for the Departments of the Colony.

LIST OF WORKS ON HAND DURING 1892.

Secretarial repairs, completed.
Solitary cells, not completed.
Mohammedan cemetery wall, completed.
Registrar General's Office, completed.
Ikoyi cemetery wall, completed.
New Government House, not completed
Telephone, not completed.
New Government House Wharf, not completed.
New quarters for District Commissioner, Badagry, not completed.
New Customs Warehouse, not completed.
New Stores, Meyer's Yard, not completed.
New printing office, not completed.
Marina Embankment, not completed.

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LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances, Orders in Council, and Rules were passed by the Legislative Council during the year :—

Date of the Law,	Substance of the Law, &c.
1892.	*Laws.*
19th April - -	An Ordinance to amend the Constabulary Ordinance, 1879, and to provide for a temporary increase to the Constabulary Force of the Colony.
21st May - -	An Ordinance to make provision respecting wrecks and other casualties affecting ships and as to salvage.
21st „ - -	An Ordinance to regulate the Importation into, and the storage and Disposal of Firearms, Ammunition, and Gunpowder, in the Colony of Lagos.
18th June - -	An Ordinance to provide for the Discipline of the members of the Lagos Constabulary Force when in the United Kingdom for instruction or for other duty.
18th „ - -	An Ordinance to amend "The Lagos Alien Children Registration Ordinance, 1877."
22nd „ - -	An Ordinance to consolidate and amend Customs Tariff Ordinances.
22nd „ - -	An Ordinance to abolish Wharfage dues upon goods landed at or shipped from a Custom House pier.
3rd August -	An Ordinance to legalize certain payments made in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one beyond the expenditure authorised by law.
3rd October -	An Ordinance to legalize the detention and deportation of a certain political prisoner, Abaku of Moshi.
22nd November -	An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three.
	Orders in Council, &c.
22nd February -	Exempting South-west Coast Mail Steamers from the payment of light dues.
19th April -	Extending the Spirit License Ordinances to Mobido, Lege, and Igbogun Island in the Eastern District of the Colony.
22nd „ - -	Temporarily increasing the strength of the Constabulary Force of the Colony.
21st May - -	Defining Districts for the purposes of the Births, Deaths, and Burials Ordinance, 1889.
15th June - -	Granting permission to Mr. R. Moor to recruit and enrol one hundred and ten men (not being Houssas) for service in the Oil Rivers Irregulars.

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.
1892.	*Orders in Council, &c.*
15th June - -	Declaring that the Custom House pier shall cease to be a Custom House pier for the purposes of the Wharfage Ordinance, 1889, and that the pier known as that of Messrs. T. E. Tomlinson & Co. shall be a Custom House Pier for the purposes of the said Ordinance until further order.
18th „ - -	Fixing the salaries of Officers appointed by the Governor under section 6 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1889.
19th August -	Revoking Order of the 15th June and declaring that the pier known as that of Messrs. T. E. Tomlinson & Co. shall cease to be a Custom House pier, and that the pier known as the Custom House pier shall be the sole Custom House pier for the purposes of Ordinance No. 7 of 1892.
11th November -	Exempting the S.S. "Teck" from the payment of Light Dues.
18th „ -	Applying the Spirit License Ordinances to the territory lying between the town of Bayeku on the West and a point on the left bank of the Oshun River on the East.
16th December -	Applying the Laws, &c. of the Colony to the kingdom of Pokra.
	Rules passed by the Legislative Council.
22nd November -	Rules for Lagos Meat Markets.
16th December -	For regulating the position and sizes of, and the prices to be paid for, spaces for vaults and graves.

Councils and Assemblies.

In the following returns are shown the changes during the year in the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils:—

Executive Council.

Return of Members composing the Executive Council.

Names.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Confirmation (taking oaths).	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G.	4 Feb. 1891	21 Sept. 1891	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. C. Denton, Esq., C.M.G. *b*	9 Mar. 1888	15 June 1888	Colonial Secretary.
G. Stallard, Esq. *c* -	18 Jan. 1892.	31 Mar. 1892	Queen's Advocate.
H. M. B. Griffith, Esq. *d*-	29 June 1891.	21 Aug. 1891	Treasurer.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

RETURN of MEMBERS composing the Legislative Council.

Names.	Date of Appointment.	Rate of Confirmation making oaths).	Term, if any, for which elected or appointed.	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
				Ex-officio.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G. -	4 February 1891 -	21 September 1891 -	- - - - -	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
J. Smalman Smith, Esq. *a* -	——	13 February 1886 -	- - - - -	Chief Justice.
G. C. Denton, Esq., C.M.G. *b* - -	9 March 1888 -	15 June 1888 -	- - - - -	Colonial Secretary.
G. Stallard, Esq. *c* - - -	18 January 1892 -	31 March 1892 -	- - - - -	Queen's Advocate.
H. M. B. Griffith, Esq. *d* - -	29 June 1881 -	21 August 1891 -	- - - - -	Treasurer.
C. J. George, Esq. - -	16 August 1890 -	24 August 1890 -	Re-appointed for three years from the 24th August, 1890.	Unofficial.
Rev. James Johnson - -	7 February 1891 -	15 June 1891 -	Re-appointed from 15th June, 1891	,,
A. R. Elliott, Esq. *e* - -	5 May 1892 -	18 June 1892 -	Appointed for three years from the 18th June, 1892.	,,
A. J. Pell, Esq. *f* - - -	26 May 1891 -	——	Provisionally appointed - -	,,
T. Welsh, Esq. - - -	5 May 1892 - -	18 June 1892 -	Appointed for three years from 18th June 1892.	,,
C. T. Mullins, Esq. *g* - -	8 December 1892 -	——	Provisionally appointed - -	,,

REMARKS.

a Absent on leave till 14th February. Mr. E. H. Richards acted as Chief Justice during his absence. Acted as Deputy Governor from 8th to 16th August.

b Acted as Deputy Governor from 10th February to 8th March, and from 1st to 8th November. Absent on leave from 21st March to 24th October, during which period Mr. A. Millson acted as Colonial Secretary.

c Appointed Queen's Advocate 18th January. Went on leave 8th September.

d Absent on leave from 6th April to 24th October. Mr. Lovell acted as Treasurer from 16th April to 4th August, and Mr. W. R. Higginson, from 5th August to 24th October.

e Died 24th October. *f* Appointment lapsed on Mr. Welsh being appointed in May. *g* In the place of the late Mr. A. R. Elliott.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Six months' leave of absence, which was afterwards extended to seven months and four days, was granted to the Honourable G. C. Denton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, from the 21st March. During the absence of this officer the duties of the Colonial Secretary were discharged by Mr. Alvan Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary. Mr. Millson was absent from the Colony, on leave of absence, from the 16th November to the end of the year.

The Honourable Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate, having accepted an appointment in the West Indies, Mr. George Stallard was appointed, on the 18th of January, Queen's Advocate and Registrar-General. Mr. Stallard was absent on leave from the 8th September to the end of the year.

The Honourable H. M. B. Griffith, Colonial Treasurer, was absent on leave from the 16th of May to the 25th of October. From the 16th of May to the 5th of August the duties of the Treasurer were performed by Mr. E. A. Lovell, together with his duties as Collector of Customs, and from the 5th of August to the 25th of October by Mr. Walter Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary.

Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, was absent on leave from the 6th of August to the end of the year. During his absence the duties of Collector of Customs were performed by Mr. Walter Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, from the 5th August to 25th October, and by the Honourable H. M. B. Griffith, together with his duties as Treasurer, from 26th of October to the end of the year.

During the absence on leave of Mr. George Cole, Postmaster, from the 20th April to the 20th June, his duties were performed by Mr. A. T. Coker, Chief Clerk in the Post Office.

Mr. Rowse, Foreman of Works, was appointed Assistant Colonial Surveyor, on one year's probation, from the 25th of October.

Chief Justice Smalman Smith was absent from the Colony, from the 1st of January to the 14th of February. During his absence Mr. E. H. Richards acted as Chief Justice.

Mr. A. C. Stuart, Engineer of Government Vessels, was absent on leave from the 6th of July to the end of the year.

Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, was absent on leave from May the 30th to December the 21st.

During the year the following officers performed the duties of District Commissioner of Lagos :—

Dr. W. R. Henderson, Senior Assistant Colonial Surgeon, from the 18th of January to the 14th of February.
Mr. E. H. Richards, from the 15th February to 30th May.
Mr. R. S. Johnstone, from 30th May to 23rd August.
Mr. F. C. Fuller, from 24th August to 21st December.

Lagos, 1892.

In the Western District the duties of District Commissioner were performed by the following officers :—

Mr. R. S. Johnstone, from 1st January to 17th May.
Major J. H. Ewart, Travelling Commissioner, from 30th May to end of the year.

Mr. A. Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, discharged the duties of District Commissioner of the Eastern District from the 1st January to 11th March, and Mr. George Smith, Chief Clerk of Customs, from 12th March to the end of the year.

Mr. J. W. Lee, Keeper of the Prison, was absent on leave from the 16th November to the end of the year.

Pensions.

An increase to the cost of the pension list was caused by a grant of 40*l.* a year to the widow of Mr. A. C. Willoughby, a promising young native officer who was shot in action against the Jebus.

Area of Lagos.

In addition to the extension of the protectorate of the Colony to the Kingdoms of Addo, Ilaro, Pokra, and Igbessa, which was made in 1891, the circumstances of the Jebu war forced the Government to accept the cession by the King and authorities of a portion of their territory comprising the main lagoon—side markets for the exchange of trade with the interior of Yoruba. To secure a more complete control it was thought necessary to place this new territory directly under the Government by making it an integral portion of the Colony.

The freedom of the main route to the interior was safeguarded by the occupation, with a force of Houssa Constabulary under European officers, of Jebu Ode, the capital of the country, and the chief town on the most direct road to Ibadan.

The exact area of the territory added to the Colony by this arrangement has not yet been ascertained, but it does not, in all probability, exceed 255 square miles.

Education.

The following notes on the progress of education during the year have been supplied by Mr. Henry Carr, B.A., the Inspector of Schools for the Colony.

The Rev. M. Sunter, M.A., Inspector of Schools for the West African Colonies, arrived at Lagos on the 25th of October, and immediately began the annual inspection and examination of the schools in the Colony. On the 14th December, while absent on duty in the Northern District, he had a fever, and returned to Lagos the next day only to die. His connexion with West Africa extended over 21 years, during the latter 10 of which he was

School Inspector. By his death West African education has lost a very able servant, and the negro a true friend.

The examination of the schools was completed by the Sub-Inspector of Schools, who was appointed Acting Inspector on the 19th of December. His Report, which was presented to the Board of Education on the 24th of March 1893, showed that during the year the total number of schools and departments under Government inspection was 55, and the number on the registers included 2,991 children distributed as hereunder:—

Denomination.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage.
Anglican - - -	1,019	617	1,636	54·70
Wesleyan - - -	487	220	707	23·64
Roman Catholic - -	339	309	648	21·66
Total - - -	1,845	1,146	2,991	100

In 1891 the total number on the registers was 1,986 boys, 1,230 girls = 3,216. There is thus a falling off of 225 children. This numerical decrease is, however, more apparent than real. On the ruins of the undenominational "Hope School" there has been established the "United Native African School," which has drawn its supply from the other schools at Lagos, and is not an assisted school. The number on the registers of the new school is 155 boys + 83 girls = 238. It may, therefore, be correctly asserted that the number of children attending school is the same during the year under report as in the previous school year.

The distribution, according to religion, stands as follows:—

Religion.	No. of children.	Percentage.
Christians - - - -	2,338	72·4
Mahommedans - - -	408	12·6
Pagans - - - -	483	15·0

In regard to religion, the proportion (per cent.) in Christian schools of the population of the town of Lagos is: Christians 30 per cent., Mahommedans 2·4 per cent., and Pagans 5·4 per cent. Neither the Mahommedans nor the Pagans furnish a regular source of supply to Christian schools. It is only due to adventitious circumstances that a few children from that section of the community are to be found in Christian schools.

There were 55 Mahommedan schools in Lagos, and the number of children attending these schools was 1,246, there being in each school an average of 23 children in attendance. These schools exert but very little direct influence on the community. The children are taught nothing more than to read the Koran mechanically, and to recite it from memory.

Elementary education would be widely diffused in this country if the Mahommedans could be induced to organise a system of sending their children to Christian schools, or to reconstruct their own schools on similar lines to those on which the Christian Schools are worked. At present the suggestion to do one thing or the other only excites suspicion and resistance in the minds of the Mahommedan priests.

Under these circumstances it is very gratifying to report that during the year there was an increase of no less than 61 Mahommedan children in Christian schools, and that the Acting Governor did not cease to bring the weight of his influence to bear upon the important question of Mahommedan education. The most recent public act of Captain Denton in this direction was to convene a meeting of the Mahommedan priests and teachers, and to reassure them of offers of encouragement and assistance from the Government, if English reading, writing, and arithmetic, should be taught in their schools. They, however, stuck at giving any decided answer to his Excellency until they should have communicated with their more enlightened brethren abroad.

The income and expenditure of the schools of the different societies, and the Government grant-in-aid for the year ended the 30th September 1892, are given below:—

Society.	Income.	Expenditure.	Government. Grant.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anglican - - -	2,394 0 11	2,094 0 6½	636 2 8
Wesleyan - - -	765 7 4½	798 19 11½	173 12 0
Roman Catholic - -	1,254 3 4½	1,954 2 9½	513 0 6
	4,413 11 8	4,847 3 3½	1,322 15 2

The fourth annual Competitive Exhibition of School Work was held in December. The quality of the work exhibited was of the high standard of excellence reported last year. Some of the articles that gained prizes have been sent to the Imperial Institute in London.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The trade of the Colony suffered severe, though temporary, injury from the hostile attitude assumed by the Egbas and Jebus, the two "middleman" tribes through whose hands most of the trade of the populous interior has to pass. The situation had become more strained every year for some time past, and eventually the forbearance of the Government was brought to an end by the Jebus, who, by a breach of their treaty with the Colony, forced the authorities to take action.

The Jebu Expedition may be fairly described as having been cheap and effective. All contracts for supplies, transport, &c. were made locally by the civil authorities. Native troops and constabulary, officered by Europeans, were employed, and, at a cost of under 5,000*l.* in all, one of the chief tribes of this part of West Africa was reduced to reason. The total loss of trade caused by the hostility of the Egbas and Jebus may be estimated at 225,000*l.* There is no doubt, however, that the large increase of trade during the present year is in part owing to the fact that the Egbas, though maintaining an unfriendly attitude during the Jebu crisis, reserved their produce with the intention of bringing it down to the markets of the Colony as soon as the storm had blown over.

By the diplomacy of the Governor, Sir Gilbert Carter, the Egbas, although irritated by the lesson given to the Jebus, were induced to resume friendly relations with the Colony, without actual hostilities having occurred on either side.

It is now evident that the adjustment of these long standing differences will add very considerably to the trade of the Colony, by throwing open to direct intercourse the fertile "hinterland" of Yoruba.

The prices of produce, values of the principal imports and exports, and the quantities of the two chief articles of export, given in my last year's Report, are here reproduced and brought up to date. It is interesting to note in this connexion, as an instance of the increased prosperity of the Colony, that the total trade for the first eight months of 1893 amounted to 1,127,339*l.*

The commercial history of the Colony since its foundation may be traced in the attached table :—

IMPORTS and EXPORTS from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862–1892.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - -	77,932 19 7	61,933 9 4	139,866 8 11
1863 - -	171,138 13 6	158,341 7 3	329,480 0 9
1864 - -	120,896 11 3	166,093 8 1	286,989 19 4
1865 - -	114,284 5 7	175,636 1 2	289,920 6 9
1866 - -	220,976 4 4	262,692 9 4	483,668 13 8
1867 - -	321,977 19 10	513,157 18 3	835,135 18 1
1868 - -	340,815 6 10	517,253 17 11	858,069 4 9
1869 - -	416,874 3 11	669,598 12 0	1,086,472 15 11
1870 - -	400,558 5 9	515,365 14 0	915,923 19 9
1871 - -	391,653 8 10	589,802 9 7	981,455 18 5
1872 - -	366,256 0 6	444,848 12 3	811,104 12 9
1873 - -	258,883 12 6	406,986 7 10	665,870 0 4
1874 - -	348,636 2 3	486,327 17 6	834,963 19 9
1875 - -	459,736 19 0	517,535 17 6	977,272 16 6
1876 - -	476,812 12 8	619,260 0 2	1,096,072 12 10
1877 - -	614,359 4 1	734,707 11 6	1,349,066 15 7
1878 - -	483,623 8 11	577,336 2 1	1,060,960 1 0
1879 - -	527,871 17 1	654,379 11 10	1,182,251 8 11
1880 - -	407,369 14 10	576,510 0 9	983,879 15 7
1881 - -	333,659 9 9	460,007 3 7	793,666 13 4
1882 - -	428,883 5 11	581,064 1 6	1,009,947 7 5
1883 - -	515,393 15 3	594,136 5 0	1,109,530 0 3
1884 - -	538,220 19 8	672,413 19 9	1,210,634 19 5
1885 - -	542,564 6 5	614,181 1 4	1,156,745 7 9
1886 - -	357,831 5 11	538,980 7 2	896,811 13 1
1887 - -	415,343 7 3	491,468 19 5	906,812 6 8
1888 - -	442,062 12 8	508,237 19 3	950,300 11 11
1889 - -	464,259 12 4	457,649 3 1	921,908 15 5
1890 - -	500,828 0 5	595,193 4 0	1,096,021 4 5
1891 - -	607,718 16 3	716,642 17 11	1,324,361 14 2
1892 - -	522,040 17 5	577,083 1 2	1,099,123 18 7

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to June 1893.

Palm Oil, per ton.

	£	s.	d.
1881.			
October	30	5	0
November	29	17	6
December	30	10	0
1882.			
January	30	10	0
February	30	17	6
March	30	12	6
April	31	12	6
May	30	0	0
June	30	0	0
July	33	15	0
August	35	10	0
September	36	5	0
October	35	0	0
November	36	0	0
December	35	10	0
1883.			
January	36	15	0
February	39	0	0
March	40	0	0
April	39	0	0
May	36	10	0
June	38	15	0
July	38	15	0
August	42	5	0
September	41	15	0
October	41	2	6
November	40	13	0
December	40	0	0
1884.			
January	40	5	0
February	40	0	0
March	40	0	0
April	33	0	0
May	33	0	0
June	33	10	0
July	34	10	0
August	34	0	0
September	32	10	0
October	31	10	0
December	29	10	0
1885.			
January	29	0	0
March	28	15	0
April	23	0	0
May	28	5	0
June	27	15	0
July	27	0	0
August	27	12	6
September	27	2	6
1885—cont.			
October	27	0	0
November	26	0	0
December	25	0	0
1886.			
February	21	0	0
March	23	10	0
April	20	0	0
May	21	15	0
June	21	0	0
July	21	5	0
August	21	7	6
September	22	0	0
October	23	0	0
November	21	10	0
December	22	0	0
1887.			
January	22	0	0
February	20	0	0
March	20	0	0
April	19	10	0
May	18	10	0
June	18	15	0
July	18	15	0
August	20	5	0
September	23	15	0
October	25	10	0
November	27	2	6
December	25	0	0
1888.			
January	19	2	6
February	19	12	6
March	21	0	0
April	20	0	0
May	20	0	0
June	20	0	0
July	20	0	0
August	20	0	0
September	21	0	0
October	20	0	0
November	19	10	0
December	19	10	0
1889.			
January	23	0	0
February	23	0	0
March	22	0	0
April	22	5	0
May	22	5	0
June	22	5	0
July	22	5	0
August	22	5	0
1888—cont.			
September	22	5	0
October	23	15	0
November	23	10	0
December	23	10	0
1890.			
January	22	0	0
February	22	5	0
March	23	0	0
April	24	5	0
May	24	5	0
June	24	10	0
July	25	10	0
August	29	0	0
September	29	0	0
October	24	10	0
November	24	10	0
December	24	5	0
1891.			
January	24	5	0
February	24	5	0
March	24	10	0
April	24	10	0
May	24	0	0
June	23	15	0
July	25	0	0
August	24	10	0
September	23	16	0
October	23	13	0
November	22	5	0
December	22	0	0
1892.			
January	21	17	6
February	20	19	0
March	21	12	6
April	20	9	0
May	20	8	0
June	20	10	0
July	20	10	0
August	20	16	0
September	21	16	0
October	22	9	0
November	23	12	6
December	24	6	0
1893.			
January	25	4	0
February	30	6	0
March	29	16	0
April	25	10	0
May	25	1	0
June	24	0	0

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to June 1893.

Palm Kernels, per ton.

1881.	£	s.	d.
October	11	12	6
November	11	5	10
December	11	12	6

1882.	£	s.	d.
January	11	7	6
February	11	10	0
March	12	0	0
April	11	15	0
May	12	0	0
June	12	0	0
July	12	0	0
August	12	16	6
September	13	0	0
October	13	0	0
November	13	6	3
December	12	15	10

1883.	£	s.	d.
January	13	10	0
February	15	0	0
March	14	0	0
April	13	10	0
May	15	8	8
June	15	5	0
July	15	6	6
August	15	13	0
September	15	12	2
October	15	8	0
November	15	15	0
December	15	11	6

1884.	£	s.	d.
January	15	15	0
February	15	17	6
March	14	16	3
April	13	18	0
May	13	11	3
June	14	11	0
July	14	12	6
August	14	1	3
September	13	7	6
October	12	15	0
December	13	15	0

1885.	£	s.	d.
February	13	5	0
April	13	10	0
July	11	16	3
September	11	17	6
October	11	10	0

1886.	£	s.	d.
February	10	12	6
March	10	17	6
April	10	10	0
June	10	0	0
August	10	2	6
September	9	18	9
October	10	2	6

1887.	£	s.	d.
January	10	12	6
March	10	0	0
June	9	10	0
August	9	18	0
September	10	7	6
October	9	15	0
November	10	10	0

1888.	£	s.	d.
January	10	13	9
February	8	0	0
March	10	10	0
May	10	0	0
July	10	7	6
August	9	16	3
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6

1889.	£	s.	d.
February	10	12	6
April	10	2	0
August	10	6	6
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6

1890.	£	s.	d.
January	10	5	0
February	10	15	0
March	10	8	9
May	11	15	0
June	13	0	0
July	12	17	6
September	14	5	0
October	15	7	6
November	12	15	0
December	12	15	0

1891.	£	s.	d.
March	12	7	0
April	13	2	6
May	12	11	3
June	11	17	6
July	11	13	6
August	11	15	0
September	11	3	0
October	10	18	0
November	10	11	3
December	10	17	0

1892.	£	s.	d.
January	10	17	6
February	10	15	0
March	10	12	6
April	10	6	6
May	10	4	0
June	10	7	0
July	10	7	6
August	10	12	0
September	10	15	0
October	10	15	6
November	10	16	0
December	10	14	3

1893.	£	s.	d.
January	10	17	0
February	12	17	6
March	11	14	0
April	10	12	6
May	11	3	0
June	11	7	0

The following were the average prices of palm-oil, and palm-kernels for the above-named years :—

Year.	Palm Oil, per Ton.	Palm Kernel, per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881 - - - -	30 4 2	11 10 3
1882 - - - -	32 19 5	12 5 11
1883 - - - -	39 6 9	14 19 11
1884 - - - -	34 14 1	14 5 6
1885 - - - -	27 17 3	12 7 9
1886 - - - -	21 13 5	10 6 3
1887 - - - -	21 11 9	10 1 10
1888 - - - -	19 19 7	10 1 11
1889 - - -	22 13 9	10 8 6
1890 - - - -	24 15 0	12 7 5
1891 - - - -	23 17 5	9 14 8
1892 - - - -	21 12 1½	10 11 10½

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For six years ending 31st December 1892.

Article.	Actual Import.					
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	722	923	1,088	926	1,315	1,153
Ale and porter -	1,253	1,063	1,393	1,455	1,671	1,214
Apparel - -	2,113	1,730	1,973	1,746	2,321	2,288
Beads - -	2,097	1,250	2,585	2,844	3,632	4,603
Beef and Pork -	616	1,039	649	1,120	564	1,237
Books - -	1,443	1,453	1,127	1,459	2,364	2,031
Bread and Biscuits	857	1,123	1,077	947	1,478	1,565
Building materials -	10,037	9,275	8,545	11,028	10,411	17,812
Chemicals and drugs	978	921	1,211	1,126	1,746	1,379
Coal - - -	1,220	818	1,173	2,071	1,446	3,559
Geneva - -	43,548	35,369	39,348	47,629	55,515	42,105
Gunpowder - -	2,202	2,757	3,820	1,439	4,227	3,188
Guns - - -	926	1,781	2,630	1,483	2,249	3,675
Haberdashery -	8,419	6,395	8,293	10,631	10,295	10,688
Hardware - -	3,598	4,067	3,543	5,823	9,788	6,745
Hoop Iron - -	2,292	1,657	1,324	2,048	1,718	1,750
Kola Nuts - -	2,653	4,262	2,929	1,702	1,998	7,721
Matchets - -	1,321	899	1,413	771	1,263	1,936
Cotton goods -	173,879	188,474	179,334	194,322	262,370	155,406
Earthenware -	3,673	5,626	1,924	3,519	7,063	3,140
Flour - - -	1,381	1,973	1,804	1,794	2,119	3,296
Oil, lamp - -	718	461	1,540	1,469	2,391	2,333
Provisions - -	4,615	4,626	4,024	5,198	5,478	5,765
Rice - - -	3,436	6,180	2,788	3,693	4,436	6,439
Rum - - -	20,218	29,717	31,664	32,905	41,343	22,267
Salt - - -	8,206	6,661	7,184	6,602	7,647	6,921
Shooks - -	9,852	11,771	9,438	11,245	15,578	11,486
Shots - - -	1,923	1,024	677	1,053	1,196	2,745
Silk goods - -	2,486	967	1,716	2,991	7,336	3,136
Specie - -	8,193	8,284	17,275	1,927	9,259	5,157
Silver - -	5,101	17,045	38,260	58,885	69,071	66,920
Tobacco - -	16,589	19,388	19,604	15,926	15,402	13,518
Twine - -	1,357	1,305	2,273	2,487	3,333	3,179
Whiskey - -	464	421	396	469	774	1,209
Wines - -	2,402	1,598	2,824	2,258	2,194	2,050
Wollen goods -	1,517	1,262	1,972	2,320	3,257	2,860

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For the six years ending 31st December 1892.

Article.	Transit Import.					
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£ s.	£	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	18	0 12	—	33	21	161
Ale and porter -	96	97 0	176	105	112	192
Apparel - -	63	—	—	—	4	147
Ammunition -	21	—	45	1	18	2,041
Beads - -	—	—	—	—	10	300
Books - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building materials -	39	15 0	19	61	—	2,136
Geneva - -	8,646	10,877 0	10,747	2,242	10,931	16,652
Gunpowder - -	—	43 0	78	—	110	—
Guns - -	18	186 0	298	—	—	—
Hardware - -	72	12 0	61	61	266	1,896
Matchets - -	76	167 0	8	—	89	248
Cotton goods -	3,126	4,423 0	4,969	5,610	10,038	10,910
Earthenware -	339	201 0	65	396	507	561
Flour - -	38	41 0	94	336	121	122
Rum - -	3,314	4,238 0	3,647	4,332	9,254	7,416
Salt - -	—	—	13	—	291	59
Shooks - -	59	—	—	—	—	—
Silk goods - -	—	—	—	—	—	27
Specie - -	—	—	—	—	1,550	—
Silver - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tobacco - -	9,478	4,713 0	7,282	7,827	6,699	5,929
Twine - -	—	—	—	—	18	31
Whiskey - -	—	—	96	11	6	51
Wines - -	55	98 0	160	80	171	130
Woollen goods -	—	—	—	—	—	10

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

For six years ending 31st December 1892.

Article.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£	£	£		£
Ammunition -	21	—	45	1	13*s.*	2,037
					£	
Benniseed -	60	290	2,132	3,599	3,028	265
Building materials	—	327	387	801	958	2,904
Cocoa - -	39	117	69	322	332	390
Coffee - -	—	—	—	34	5	12
Coprah - -	—	2	2	108	606	85
Cotton - -	2,093	4,025	8,023	6,063	4,825	565
Cotton goods -	20,311	12,992	17,098	16,176	27,531	20,905
Country cloths -	5,659	8,746	10,669	10,272	12,818	12,283
Cowries - -	805	234	46	3,024	5,061	4,539
Geneva - -	13,975	14,393	13,694	3,568	12,117	24,341
Gum copal -	—	—	—	155	45	680
Haberdashery -	81	54	113	276	631	1,680
Hardware -	219	85	201	600	554	1,596
Indigo - -	—	1	3	13	10*s.*	5
					£	
Ivory - -	5,822	4,007	4,093	4,183	3,569	2,526
Palm oil - -	151,167	123,368	133,723	190,657	252,958	137,742
Palm kernels -	266,960	314,885	239,986	319,276	341,349	260,109
Potash - -	529	55	120	393	130	284
Provisions -	258	161	593	1,054	1,501	2,228
Raphia Vinifera -	—	—	—	8	6	—
Rice - -	92	278	220	412	234	1,409
Rum - -	4,937	5,623	5,335	5,434	11,051	8,584
Salt - -	1,121	1,087	864	279	1,167	395
Shea Butter -	1,268	1,200	1,393	1,123	1,905	1,930
Shooks - -	483	739	351	1,812	2,922	3,208
Specie - -	805	450	1,456	9,106	16,284	59,283
Tobacco - -	9,899	7,556	9,185	8,989	7,841	6,701

Year.	Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.	
	Bags.	Tons.	Gallons.	Tons.
1862 -	119	—	528,866	1,763
1863 -	—	2,665	1,361,437	4,538
1864 -	—	4,511	1,163,407	3,878
1865 -	—	2,630	1,139,858	3,800
1866 -	—	7,216	1,999,066	6,397
1867 -	—	13,619	1,641,634	5,472
1868 -	—	15,498	1,460,746	4,869
1869 -	—	20,394	1,770,991	5,903
1870 -	—	15,894	1,732,448	5,841
1871 -	—	19,375	1,788,425	5,961
1872 -	—	25,870	1,301,150	4,337
1873 -	—	16,410*	962,350	3,208
1874 -	—	25,192	1,383,049	4,610
1875 -	—	26,455	1,802,846	6,009
1876 -	—	30,306	1,992,468	6,641
1877 -	—	30,675	3,304,967	11,016
1878 -	—	27,874	1,540,638	5,133½
1879 -	—	26,841	2,469,348	8,231
1880 -	—	29,632	1,496,423	4,988
1881 -	—	20,801	1,807,297	6,024
1882 -	—	28,591	2,637,327	8,791
1883 -	—	25,820	1,971,359	6,571
1884 -	—	29,802	2,382,656	7,942
1885 -	—	30,805	2,657,775	8,859
1886 -	—	34,812	3,097,538	10,322
1887 -	—	35,784	2,506,146	8,354
1888 -	—	43,525	2,467,705	8,225
1889 -	—	32,715	2,349,011	7,830
1890 -	—	38,829	3,200,824	10,669
1891 -	—	42,342	4,204,835	14,016
1892 -	—	32,180	2,458,260	8,194

Tonnage of Sailing and Steam Vessels.

Six sailing vessels, all under foreign flags, entered at the ports of the Colony in 1892, of a tonnage of 1,928 tons and with crews amounting to 57, as against 15 in 1891, of 4,932 tons and with crews numbering 152.

The same sailing vessels, with the same number of their crews, cleared during the year, as compared with 12 in 1891, of a tonnage of 3,636, and crews amounting to 119.

Four hundred and forty steam vessels entered, of a tonnage of 335,770 tons and 14,591 men of their crews, as against 404 in 1891, of 297,592 tons, with crews numbering in all 12,376.

Four hundred and fifty-two steam vessels cleared, of a tonnage of 335,420 tons and with 14,730 men of their crews, as compared with 405 in 1891, of 296,037 tons and with crews amounting to 12,810 men.

The totals of vessels entered and cleared were as follows in 1891 and 1892 respectively :—

—	1891.	1892.
Vessels entered - - - -	302,529	337,698
Vessels cleared - - - -	299,673	337,348
Total - -	602,202	675,046

VITAL STATISTICS, &c.

The following report by the Registrar-General is interesting as showing the result of the recent attempt to enforce by law the accurate registration of births and deaths.

Births.

The number of births registered in 1892 is 573, as against 245 in 1891. It will be observed that of those registered in 1892 451 were registered during the half year that the Ordinance was in force, against 122 during previous half year.

In view of the fact that the census return, 1891, gave the population of the district as 32,508, the registration of births cannot be regarded as at all satisfactory. I have made inquiries on this subject with the result that I find that many children of Lagos parents are born away from Lagos. Many are born at farms outside the district, and many at towns in the interior. *e.g.*, Abeokuta, Illorin, Ilesha, Porto Novo, &c. and it is extremely difficult to trace them.

Deaths.

Total registered in 1892 is 1,383, as against 1,536 in 1891. I think these figures may be taken to be accurate. 1891 was an exceptionally unhealthy year; no fewer than 129 deaths are in that year attributed to small-pox as against 23 in 1892, while influenza and its after results helped to swell the totals. It will be seen that more than one third of the total number of deaths registered in 1892 were of infants under six years, a very large proportion.

During 1892 eight Europeans died, four being English; in 1891 the same number died, none being English. A separate return is appended.

As to the return of the causes of death, it is necessary to point out that in a very great majority of cases no medical certificate is

available, no medical attendance having been procured; thus, in 169 cases only can absolute confidence be placed in the return of causes, *i.e.*, 63 where medical certificates were given, 16 where inquests were held, and 90 deaths in hospital. It will be a long time before the aboriginal population generally takes to consulting qualified medical men in their ailments. Unless there is a medical certificate, or an inquest, the description of relatives and neighbours has to be taken; if it seems satisfactory the disease is classed, as approximately as may be, from that description; if unsatisfactory I direct inquiries to be made before a certificate of burial is granted, and report to the coroner, who can, if he thinks fit, hold an inquest.

Marriages.

Forty-six were registered in 1892, as against 45 in 1891.

Fees.

The total amount of fees collected in the Registry during 1892 was 303*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

STATISTICS, 1891.

Births.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Christian.	Mohammedan.	Pagan.	Still-born.	Fees received for Registration.
1891 - -	139	106	245	74	Cannot be ascertained.	138	84	23	—	£ s. d. —

Marriages.

Year.	Number.	Forms of					Buildings licensed for Marriages.	Fees received for registration of Marriages.
		Church Missionary Society.	Wesleyan Missionary Society.	Roman Catholics.	Baptist.	Registry.		
1891 - -	45	23	10	10	2	—	—	£ s. d. 37 10 0

Deaths.—Number, Sex, and Ages of Persons registered.

Year.	Males, Deaths under—									Total Males.	Females, Deaths under—									Total Females.	Total Males and Females.	Fees paid for Brick Graves.
	1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.		1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.			£ s. d.
1891 -	212	119	117	127	78	32	41	37	22	785	172	106	106	117	54	32	59	70	35	751	1,536	69 10 0

Causes of Deaths.

Year.	Deaths in Prison.	Deaths in Colonial Hospital.	No. of Inquests held.	No. of Medical Certificates as to cause of Death.	Fever.	Heart Disease.	Small-pox.	Dysentery.	Lung Diseases.	Violence.	Homi-cide.	Suicide.	Execu-tion.	Other Causes.	Total.
1891 -	2	74	21	—	695	1	129	87	177	7	2	1	1	436	1,536

Other Causes of Deaths (detailed).

Year.	Influenza.	Tetanus.	Fits.	Diarrhœa.	Child Birth.	Dropsy.	Rheumatism.	Natural Causes.	Convulsions.	Debility.	Still Born.	Burns.	Leprosy.	Drowning.	Asthenia.	Abscess.	Decorrhœa.	Anœmia.	Blackwater Fever.	Apoplexy.	Bright Disease.	Syphilis.	Sores.	Ascites.	Pleuritis.	Total of other Causes.
1891	21	1	7	12	10	8	23	147	145	7	25	1	2	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	436

Table showing number of Deaths of Europeans, Causes, Occupations, &c.

Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Causes.				Occupations.								Nationality.			Resident.	Non-resident.
				Fever.	Blackwater Fever.	Suicide.	Total.	Physician.	Schoolmistress.	Teacher.	Mercantile Agent.	Lieut. in German Army.	Commander, Belgian Army.	Sister of Mercy.	Total.	French.	German.	Belgian.		
1891	6	2	8	5	2	1	8	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8	2	5	1	4	4

LAGOS.
1892.

STATISTICS, 1892.

Births.

Year 1892.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Christian.	Mohammedan.	Pagan.	Still born.	Fees received for Registration.
										£ s. d.
January to June -	71	51	122	94	28	52	59	11	—	—
July to December -	224	227	451	389	62	142	282	27	26	3 8 0
Totals - -	295	278	573	483	90	194	341	38	26	3 8 0

Marriages.

Year 1892.	Number.	Forms of					Buildings Licensed for Marriages.	Fees received for Registration of Marriages.
		Church Missionary Society.	Wesleyan Missionary Society.	Roman Catholics.	Baptist	Registry.		
								£ s. d.
January to June -	17	8	3	5	1	—	—	16 10 0
July to December -	29	22	4	2	1	—	1	24 16 0
Total - -	46	30	7	7	2	—	1	41 6 0

Deaths.—Number, Sex, and Age of Persons registered.

Year 1892.	Males, Deaths under—									Total Males.	Females, Deaths under—									Total Females.	Total Males and Females.	Fees paid for Brick Graves.
	1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.		1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.			£ s. d.
January to June -	99	49	48	62	42	19	27	22	15	383	98	59	50	49	28	20	35	34	24	397	780	10 0 0
July to December	100	38	22	37	24	24	11	11	15	282	75	38	27	48	20	16	27	36	34	321	603	37 10 0
Total -	199	87	70	99	66	43	38	33	30	665	173	97	77	97	48	36	62	70	58	718	1,383	47 10 0

Table showing Number of Deaths of Europeans, Causes, Occupations, &c.

Year 1892.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Causes.							Occupations.								Nationality.			Resident and Non-Resident.	
				Fever.	Delirium Tremens, &c.	Enteritis.	Apoplexy.	Syncope.	Cardiac failure.	Total.	Captain on board ship.	Foreman of works.	Seaman.	Mercantile agent.	Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools.	Clerk.	Medical doctor.	Total.	English.	French.	German.	Resident.	Non-Resident.
January to June	2	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	2	—
July to December.	6	—	6	2	—	1	1	1	1	6	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	6	3	1	2	3	3
Total -	8	—	8	3	1	1	1	1	1	8	1	1	1	2	1	1		8	4	1	3	5	3

Causes of Death.

Year 1892.	Deaths in Prison.	Deaths in Colonial Hospital.	No. of Inquests held.	No. of Medical Certificates as to Cause of Death.	Fever.	Heart Disease.	Small-pox.	Dysentery.	Lung Disease.	Violence.	Homicide.	Suicide.	Execution.	Other Causes.	Total.
January to June	1	49	—	—	326	4	22	50	77	5	—	—	—	296	780
July to December	1	41	16	63	200	7	1	23	92	2	2	2	—	274	603
Total -	2	90	—	—	526	11	23	73	169	7	2	2	—	570	1,383

Other causes detailed.

Year 1892.	Influenza.	Tetanus.	Fits.	Diarrhœa.	Child Birth.	Dropsy.	Rheumatism.	Natural Causes.	Convulsions.	Debility.	Still Born.	Burns.	Mania.	Tuberculosis.	Leprosy.	Peritonitis.	Starvation dementia.	Lightning.	Nervousness.	Sympha Demona.	Gonorrhœa.	Skin Diseases.	Emphysema.	Tubercle of Fever.	Syphilis.	Accident.	Unknown.	Delirium Tremens.	Pain.	Cerebral Meningitis.	Scalding.	Abscess.	Asthenia.	Syncope.	Mitral Incompetence.	Eutentis.	Tonsilitis.	Strangulated Hernia.	Eclampsia.	Pyœmia.	Albuminuria.	Exhaustion from Starvation.	Apoplexy.	Total of Other Causes.
January to June - -	44	4	20	15	10	3	9	109	45	9	17	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	296
July to December - -	–	7	–	41	11	15	21	9	102	9	27	1	–	–	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	274
Total - - -	44	11	20	56	21	18	30	118	147	18	44	2	3	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	570

The deaths among the white population from 1881 to 1892, with the ages at death, are here specified:—

Year.	Male.		Female.		Total.	Ages.
	Resident.	Visitor.	Resident.	Visitor.		
1881	7	3	0	0	10	23, 27, 40, 46, 56, 32, 50, 36, 30, 31.
1882	3	1	0	0	4	32, 18, 21, 26.
1883	8	3	0	0	11	34, 32, 30, 45, 51, 23, 28, 45, 40, 28, 49.
1884	10	1	0	0	11	33, 40, 47, 29, 22, 41, 4½, 25, 33, 3½, 28.
1885	5	3	0	0	8	33, 34, 45, 35, 40, 27, 40, 40.
1886	7	2	0	0	9	30, 34, 52, 70, 40, 26, 35, 30, 24.
1887	6	3	0	1	10	75, 39, 37, 33, 32, 25, 31, 40, 30, 37.
1888	10	0	1	0	11	37, 35, 32, 65, 24, 31, 33, 29, 48, 41, 25.
1889	9	0	2	0	11	32, 30, 37, 24, 45, 50, 54, 35, 30, 50, 37.
1890	3	1	1	0	5	22, 38, 35, 30, 31.
1891	2	4	2	0	8	33, 21½, 22, 28, 27, 20, 27, 27.
1892	5	3	0	0	8	32, 55, 20, 46, 45, 23, 33, 25.

N.B.—In 1881 the deaths include 1 male Missionary of the C.M.S.

1884.—2 male Roman Catholic Missionaries.

1885.—1 Do. Do.

1886.—1 Colonial Engineer of Lagos.
1 Doctor of s.s. "Fragot."

1887.—1 male Catholic Missionary.
1 Colonial Surgeon of Lagos.
1 Foreman of Works of Lagos.

1888.—1 Gaoler of Lagos.
1 Italian Consul (suicide).
1 male Missionary of the C.M S.
1 Surveyor-General of Lagos Government.
1 Colonial Engineer.
1 Barrister-at-Law.

1889.—2 Captains of branch steamers of the African Steamship Company.
1 engineer, branch steamer.
1 female Missionary, American Baptist.

1890 —1 captain, German Army.
1 male Missionary, C.M.S.
1 captain, branch steamer.

1891.—1 physician, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 male teacher, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 lieutenant, Imperial German Army.
1 captain of the Artillery, Belgian Army from Congo (suicide).
2 Sisters of Mercy, Roman Catholic Mission.

1892 —1 captain of ship.
1 Foreman of Works (Government.)
1 seaman (French).
2 mercantile agents.
1 H.M. Inspector of Schools.
1 mercantile clerk.
1 doctor, s.s. "Akassa."

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of prisoners committed during 1892 was 255, as compared with 180 in 1891, 215 in 1890, 328 in 1889, 268 in 1888, 264 in 1887, 262 in 1886, 225 in 1885, 225 in 1884, 274 in 1883, 232 in 1882, 222 in 1881, 351 in 1880, 425 in 1879 and 313 in 1878.

This increase in committals is, to a certain extent, due to the fact that the out-station prisons at Badagry and Leckie were closed by order of the Governor, as being unsuited for the purpose to which they were put. All prisoners, save for short terms of a few days, are consequently now sent to head-quarters.

The recent additions to the jurisdiction of the Colony have also had the effect of increasing the area from which criminals are supplied.

The health of the prisoners was good, one death only being recorded, as against one in 1891, three in 1890, two in 1889, and three in 1888.

The various handicrafts to which the prisoners are trained were carried on with a fair result in the value of the work done as compared with that of the previous five years.

VALUE OF PRISONERS LABOUR FROM 1888 to 1892.

Nature of Labour.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Out-door Labour.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Public Works Department	73 17 6	21 1 8	18 14 0	70 2 0	35 14 6
Roads, streets, and bridges	138 8 9	158 12 9	165 6 0	83 2 0	86 7 7
Sanitary	104 8 0	81 18 0	41 9 9	49 1 0	74 0 0
Transport	114 15 7	41 11 7	13 1 1½	11 12 3	3 13 0
Miscellaneous	132 1 2	20 18 7	50 18 3	10 15 9	14 14 6
In-door Labour.					
Bricklaying	357 14 6	447 13 6	228 14 6	85 5 0	306 15 0
Bookbinding	50 15 6	73 3 0	88 12 0	208 6 0	61 19 0
Carpentering	106 8 6	88 16 0	67 10 0	69 3 0	52 11 0
Foot-mat and basket making	67 18 6	110 9 6	188 8 0	86 6 0	105 8 0
Rope making	51 15 0	71 17 0	34 11 6	122 13 0	87 16 0
Tailoring	51 7 0	15 13 0	30 4 0	30 0 0	34 19 0
Screen making	—	—	238 2 1	37 2 0	47 1 0
Brush making	—	—	15 7 0		15 9 0
Miscellaneous	132 0 6	202 8 0	282 0 6	206 14 0	388 15 9
Total	1,461 19 6	1,334 2 3	1,462 19 8½	1,079 2 0	1,314 15 4
Cost of Prison	1,891 8 6	1,836 14 4	1,851 7 5	1,828 18 10	1,828 18 5
Deficit	429 9 0	502 12 1	388 7 8½	749 16 10	514 3 1

The attached table shows the nature of the most prevalent offences during the past five years:—

I.—COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the last five years.

—	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
Number of offences reported to the police	35	29	51	22	25
Number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrate.	870	634	724	708	728

	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
Number of summary convictions—					
1. For offences against the person -	60	62	84	86	136
2. For cattle stealing and arson -	20	5	—	10	13
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson	87	93	101	81	89
4. For other offences - - -	230	174	212	105	126
Number of convictions in the Superior Courts—					
1. For offences against the person -	34	24	27	23	15
2. For cattle stealing and arson -	—	—	—	1	—
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	30	15	23	19	38
4. For other offences - - -	17	9	14	8	17
The number of persons acquitted—					
1. In the Inferior Courts - -	361	157	180	270	255
2. In the Superior Courts - -	31	17	25	36	26

The following notes on the health of the community have been supplied by the Acting Colonial Surgeon :—

During the year 808 patients were treated in the internal department of the General Hospital, and of these 39 were Europeans and 769 natives; four Europeans and 82 natives died in the hospital, but the total number of deaths in the town of Lagos was eight Europeans and 1,375 natives. Nearly all the fatal cases amongst the European population were due to malarial fever. Amongst the natives the diseases which caused the greatest mortality were those of the respiratory and digestive systems, the most serious disease of the respiratory system being pneumonia; and of the digestive, dysentery. During the early months of the year influenza was present in the Colony and added considerably to the death-rate, which all round was higher than that of the previous year. In the months of November and December there was a great deal of sickness amongst the white residents, and four died in the latter month.

In the Contagious Diseases Hospital, 74 patients were treated, and of these 21 died, 19 deaths being caused by small-pox, which was most prevalent at the beginning of the year.

Vaccination has been well and successfully carried on, 19,534 persons having been operated upon with a satisfactory result in 13,787 cases; although 3,778 did not return, it may be taken that in at least half of these cases the operation was a success.

In addition to the in-patients treated in the General and Contagious Diseases Hospital, 3,678 out-patients received treatment at the General Hospital, and 3,823 at the Ereko Dispensary.

(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL

No. 51.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 22.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-1,]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
14	Zululand	1890
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 51.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 22.]

Acting Governor EVANS to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Antigua,
July 13, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship my report on the Blue Book of the Leeward Islands Colony for the year 1891. The Blue Book itself is not yet out of the printer's hands, but I expect to have it ready for transmission to your Lordship at an early date.

2. The Colony has passed quietly through a year of trial; there was severe famine and drought in Anguilla, the want of seasonable rain diminished the cane crops of Antigua and St. Kitts, while the hurricane which devastated Martinique on the 18th August last damaged the lime trees of Dominica, and but for the circulation of the money expended upon public works, great distress would have prevailed among the labouring class, and have made itself apparent. Nevertheless, the Colony shows no sign of retrogression; it is advancing in prosperity, and with its healthy climate, and many undeveloped industries, must advance with the introduction of capital, which can be remuneratively invested.

3. A Parcels Post Convention with Canada has been signed and arrangements have been made for the establishment of a money order system, so that our commercial transactions with Canada, which are steadily increasing, may be facilitated.

4. The schemes for bringing the Colony into more regular steam communication with the United States and Canada, and for the erection of high-class hotels, have been borne in mind, and it is hoped that they will shortly come into operation.

5. The plan for the improvement of the Harbour of St. John's, Antigua, has been approved by your Lordship, and we look forward to having in the near future one of the best and most attractive harbours in the West Indies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRED. EVANS,
Administering the Government.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

I 73107. Wt. 10230.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

1.—REVENUE.

The revenue was affected by the small crops obtained from the sugar-cane plantations and as against an estimate of 120,609*l.* only yielded 111,286*l.*, or 8,073*l.* less than was realised in 1890.

It will be observed from the following statement that of the total loss, as compared with the 1890 receipts, the Presidencies of Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis sustained between them 7,575*l.* while Dominica, Montserrat and the Virgin Islands, although short of their estimated receipts by 3,576*l.*, nearly maintained the revenue of the previous year. This is to be accounted for by the fact that the commercial depression of the year was more severely felt in the former Presidencies than in Dominica and Montserrat, where the staple industries were not affected. But for the relief works in Anguilla and for the expenditure upon public works, Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis would have suffered more severely.

Presidency.	Estimated 1891.	Actual Receipts.	
		1891.	1890.
	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	46,024	43,506	46,334
St. Kitts - - -	41,438	38,209	42,956
Dominica - -	24,045	21,533	21,574
Montserrat - -	7,107	6,526	6,733
Virgin Islands - -	1,995	1,512	1,762
Total. - -	120,609	111,286	119,359

Of the loss sustained by Antigua and St. Kitts 5,397*l.* arose under Customs. In Dominica and Montserrat the customs receipts were increased, in the Virgin Islands they fell off.

There was a decrease in the amount of shipping (excluding the Government Steamer "Tyne" which pays no dues) and as a consequence the port and harbour dues gave 1,217*l.* less than in 1890.

The Excise duties were better collected and yielded an increase of 797*l.*, in St. Kitts only was there a decrease (130*l.*).

The amount raised in Antigua from the Land Tax was increased by 788*l.* but fell off in the other Presidencies, the net decrease being 1,350*l.*

The Post Office receipts showed an increase of 395*l.*, but there was a falling off in licenses, rates and fees of court.

I append a statement showing for each Presidency the amount of Revenue collected and the sources from which it was derived.

Comparative Statement of Revenue Collected in each Presidency of the Colony for the Years 1890 and 1891.

Heads of Revenue.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Import duties on other than alcoholic liquors - - -	22,147 19 7	20,667 17 10	19,579 5 4	17,815 13 7	8,175 4 2	8,858 2 8
3. Import duties on alcoholic liquors	8,155 3 3	6,679 17 2	3,112 17 9	2,134 16 6	901 1 5	595 15 2
	30,303 2 10	27,347 15 0	22,692 3 1	20,250 10 1	9,076 5 7	9,453 17 10
4. Port harbour dues- - - -	1,575 5 5	1,246 17 10	3,296 15 5	2,640 6 9	902 15 4	835 18 2
5. Internal Revenue :—						
Excise - - - -	1,354 11 9	1,830 0 6	3,639 16 0	3,508 7 2	3,187 0 8	3,518 18 8
Taxes - - - -	2,834 10 3	3,622 12 7	5,780 12 8	4,357 18 7	4,823 18 10	4,269 8 2
Licenses - - - -	2,099 8 6	2,076 11 4	2,600 16 1	2,583 16 8	1,484 11 3	1,537 2 9
Rates - - -	1,450 11 10	1,449 9 1	1,053 9 4	761 10 4	79 13 5	84 11 10
Miscellaneous - - -	1,104 7 7	917 12 6	1,065 5 4	947 18 8	890 10 5	686 4 6
	8,843 9 11	9,896 6 0	14,139 19 5	12,159 11 5	10,465 14 7	10,096 5 11

Comparative Statement of Revenue Collected in each Presidency of the Colony for the Years 1890 and 1891—*continued*.

Heads of Revenue.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
(*continued*).	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
6. Fees of court - - -	3,450 10 2	2,991 17 1	1,308 18 9	1,111 19 8	510 18 0	445 12 5
7. Post Office, &c. - - -	1,729 1 4	1,827 5 8	1,258 17 2	1,557 1 7	498 1 4	650 14 10
8. Rents - - - -	200 4 8	62 14 0	58 14 4	364 7 6	52 18 7	5 3 8
9. Interest - - - -	180 0 0	110 2 4	63 6 3	41 4 2	21 5 0	1 5 0
10. Miscellaneous - - -	52 7 9	22 13 3	136 15 1	84 3 8	46 8 5	44 4 0
	£46,334 2 1	43,505 11 2	42,955 9 6	38,209 4 10	21,574 6 10	21,533 1 10

Comparative Statement of Revenue Collected in each Presidency of the Colony for the Years 1890 and 1891—*continued.*

Heads of Revenue.	Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total for the Colony.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Import duties on other than alcoholic liquors - -	2,215 1 4	2,369 9 7	463 12 0	407 18 0	52,581 2 5	50,110 1 8	—	2,471 0 9
3. Import duties on alcoholic liquors	626 3 11	489 14 7	42 11 8	60 19 9	12,837 18 0	10,261 3 2	—	2,576 14 10
£	2,841 5 3	2,850 4 2	506 3 8	468 17 9	65,419 0 5	60,371 4 10	—	—
4. Port Harbour dues - -	96 1 10	7 16 6	519 2 5	442 10 9	6,390 0 5	5,173 10 0	—	1,216 10 5
5. Internal Revenue :—								
Excise - -	737 5 6	858 9 3	—	—	8,918 13 11	9,715 15 7	797 1 8	—
Taxes - - -	1,867 11 9	1,714 17 10	246 0 11	237 11 9	15,552 14 5	14,202 8 11	—	1,350 5 6
Licenses - - -	438 15 0	423 9 0	209 16 1	201 3 10	6,873 6 11	6,822 3 7	—	51 3 4
Rates - - - -	110 5 3	91 15 6	—	—	2,693 19 10	2,387 6 9	—	306 13 1
Miscellaneous - -	66 2 10	59 12 0	53 15 10	53 5 7	3,140 2 0	2,664 13 3	—	475 8 9
£	3,220 0 4	3,148 3 7	509 12 10	492 1 2	37,178 17 1	35,792 8 1	—	—

Comparative Statement of Revenue Collected in each Presidency of the Colony for the Years 1890 and 1891—*continued.*

Heads of Revenue.	Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total for the Colony.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
(*continued*).	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
6. Fees of Court - - -	265 4 5	222 18 8	62 17 6	69 2 10	5,598 8 10	4,841 10 8	—	756 18 2
7. Post Office, &c. - -	273 19 11	249 16 2	152 19 4	22 16 9	3,912 19 1	4,307 15 0	394 15 11	—
8. Rents - - - -	—	—	3 10 10	4 12 2	315 8 5	436 17 4	121 8 11	—
9. Interest - - -	—	31 15 3	—	—	264 11 3	184 6 9	—	80 4 6
10. Miscellaneous - - -	36 0 1	14 17 3	7 18 6	12 8 4	279 9 10	178 6 6	—	101 3 4
£	6,732 11 10	6,525 11 7	1,762 5 1	1,512 9 9	119,358 15 4	111,285 19 2	1,313 6 6	9,386 2 8

Of the total revenue collected 33,985*l.* or nearly one-third of the whole was spent directly on the people in education and on public libraries, hospitals, &c.; while the administration of justice, suppression of crime, and preservation of the peace, cost about 25,300*l.*

2.—EXPENDITURE.

Irrespective of the 12,484*l.* spent upon exceptional and special public works, the expenditure of 1891 was 114,504*l.* It was 2,207*l.* less than was estimated, although 3,218*l.* in excess of the year's revenue, which only yielded the small sum of 111,286*l.*, as against 119,359*l.* in 1890, and instead of the 120,609*l.* estimated for. The expenditure includes services for which there were no disbursements in 1890, namely 3,000*l.* as subsidy to the Federal steamer "Tyne," an additional 3,096*l.* for education, 1,026*l.* for the Census and extra outlay on the prisons and hospitals; but, notwithstanding, it is only 305*l.* more than in 1890.

The tables show the expenditure of each Presidency.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE in each PRESIDENCY of the COLONY in the years 1890 and 1891.

Heads of Expenditure.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account public works -	3,008 13 7	806 19 3	1,119 0 0	1,139 0 0	3,646 16 11	1,709 9 8
2 Pensions - - - -	558 3 11	904 4 1	2,329 1 1	2,522 15 4	714 18 4	641 2 3
3. Legislative - - -	75 0 0	75 0 0	100 0 0	100 0 0	50 17 0	50 0 0
4. Island Secretary - - -	163 16 5	164 3 7	792 7 8	792 1 10	793 2 3	674 16 0½
5. Federal contribution - -	3,215 4 3	3,017 3 0½	2,866 12 1	3,971 6 1½	1,852 8 8	2,404 18 7
6. Treasury and Customs - -	2,405 2 9	2,880 14 5½	2,139 16 4	2,129 18 7	2,046 5 6	2,093 17 8½
7. Audit - - - -	164 1 0	170 0 0	50 0 0	50 0 0	—	—
8. Port and Marine - - -	737 8 11	556 6 8	78 7 7	109 9 7	24 10 8	40 17 9
9. Registrar and Provost Marshal -	853 4 4	849 13 2	721 19 2	884 11 10	618 0 11	701 7 5
10. Magistrates - - -	1,099 7 2	928 17 8	1,720 13 9	1,596 15 4	548 9 11	625 16 8
11. Police - - - -	3,533 15 10	3,537 15 2	3,073 11 9	3,123 2 11	1,745 16 7	1,736 16 4
12. Prisons - - - -	1,769 12 2	2,329 13 1½	1,433 19 10	1,588 18 9	775 17 7	727 11 2
13. Medical - - -	2,246 17 8	2,265 19 6	2,071 18 10	2,166 15 0	1,337 17 7	1,385 7 3½
14. Hospitals - - - -	6,713 4 6	7,446 14 2½	5,937 17 4	7,799 2 3	2,580 6 0	2,518 11 2½
15. Education - - - -	1,245 3 2	2,670 9 9½	1,252 10 11	2,073 11 4	1,019 11 9	1,542 4 6
16. Ecclesiastical - - -	679 4 9	204 7 8	720 8 9	281 14 5	—	—

Comparative Statement of Expenditure in each Presidency of the Colony in the years 1890 and 1891—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
17. Board of Health - - -	2,542 15 0	2,676 18 10½	729 7 9	759 7 9	543 11 11	508 10 3½
18. Registration and Vaccination -	294 11 0	293 14 0	402 5 0	560 7 0	114 8 9	44 0 0
19. Public Market - - -	201 8 4	203 16 0	62 17 2	53 2 7	23 19 8	12 9 0
20. Public Library - - -	180 0 0	180 0 0	259 1 7	198 4 4	—	—
21. Laboratory - - -	470 7 11	402 15 8	—	30 16 5	—	—
22. Military - - - -	1,082 9 7	1,259 5 6	50 1 4	50 0 0	—	—
23. Miscellaneous - - -	1,889 13 7	1,265 3 10½	1,101 6 5	790 5 2	945 5 10	1,208 4 8
24. Post Office - - - -	1,662 17 8	1,440 19 9	1,346 8 5	1,287 1 11	532 10 5	742 16 8½
25. Telegraphs - - -	800 0 0	800 0 0	809 0 1	817 16 6	400 0 0	—
26. Telephones - - -	1,336 9 9	533 4 5	71 9 0	318 19 9	—	—
27. Public Works Department -	1,175 15 6	1,169 2 8	816 2 4	852 14 6	557 6 1	590 8 0
28. „ „ recurrent - -	5,580 6 5	4,460 6 0	4,872 10 6	3,772 5 6	2,735 8 3	2,050 2 10
Total - -	£45,684 15 3	43,493 8 1½	36,928 15 8	39,820 4 8½	23,607 10 0	22,009 8 1
29. Public Works Extraordinary -	4,457 13 6	3,815 6 4½	6,163 5 2	5,400 10 9	610 0 0	2,927 7 10
Total - -	£50,142 8 9	47,309 3 6	43,092 0 10	45,220 15 5½	24,217 10 0	24,936 15 11

Comparative Statement of Expenditure in each Presidency of the Colony in the years 1890 and 1891—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total Colony.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1891.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account public works	245 0 0	218 0 0	—	—	8,019 10 6	3,873 8 11	—	4,146 1 7
2. Pensions - - -	233 12 4	117 9 3	134 16 2	134 16 2	3,970 11 10	4,320 7 1	349 15 3	—
3. Legislative - - -	—	—	5 0 0	5 0 0	230 17 0	230 0 0	—	0 17 0
4. Island Secretary - -	465 0 0	469 3 4	403 10 6	387 3 0	2,617 16 10	2,487 7 9½	—	130 9 0½
5. Federal contribution - -	617 8 11	915 15 3	198 15 2	288 17 4	8,750 10 1	10,598 0 4	1,847 10 3	—
6. Treasury and Customs -	378 8 3	352 14 2	165 13 7	168 11 3	7,135 6 5	7,625 16 2	490 9 9	—
7. Audit - - - -	—	—	—	—	214 1 0	220 0 0	5 19 0	—
8. Port and Marine - -	13 15 8	23 12 6½	—	—	854 2 10	730 6 6½	—	123 16 3½
9. Registrar and Provost Marshal	41 6 0	30 14 6	—	212 0 5	2,234 10 5	2,678 7 4	443 16 11	—
10. Magistrates - - -	24 0 0	24 0 0	52 9 0	13 0 0	3,444 19 10	3,188 9 8	—	256 10 2
11. Police - - - -	256 7 6	365 2 3	48 4 11	39 9 8	8,757 16 0	8,802 6 4	44 10 4	—
12. Prisons - - -	196 3 11	179 7 0½	141 18 8	142 17 1	4,317 12 2	4,968 7 2	650 15 0	—
13. Medical - - -	410 19 9	459 8 4	215 0 0	215 0 0	6,282 13 10	6,492 10 1½	209 16 3½	—
14. Hospitals - - -	920 16 11	915 7 5	264 12 0	276 8 7	16,416 16 9	18,956 3 8	2,539 6 11	—
15. Education - - -	339 9 0	649 18 11	101 16 0	119 6 0	3,958 10 10	7,055 10 6½	3,096 19 8½	—
16. Ecclesiastical - - -	458 15 0	458 15 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	1,870 8 6	956 17 1	—	913 11 5

Comparative Statement of Expenditure in each Presidency of the Colony in the years 1890 and 1891—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total Colony.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
17. Board of Health - -	80 18 8	183 9 8	—	—	3,896 13 4	4,128 6 7	231 13 3	—
18. Registration and Vaccination -	85 15 8	45 4 11	14 1 0	20 4 0	911 1 5	963 9 11	52 8 6	—
19. Public Market - -	34 18 6	34 16 0	—	—	323 3 9	304 3 7	—	19 0 2
20. Public Library - -	50 0 0	50 0 0	—	—	489 1 7	428 4 4	—	60 17 3
21. Laboratory - - -	—	—	—	—	470 7 11	433 12 1	—	36 15 10
22. Military - - -	—	—	—	—	1,132 10 11	1,309 5 6	176 14 7	—
23. Miscellaneous - - -	127 16 6	597 14 2	67 0 0	83 6 0	4,131 2 4	3,944 13 10½	—	186 8 5½
24. Post Office - - -	92 15 2	193 2 1	22 13 11	50 4 7	3,657 5 7	3,714 5 0½	56 19 5½	—
25. Telegraphs - - -	—	—	—	—	2,009 0 1	1,617 16 6	—	391 3 7
26. Telephones - - -	—	—	—	—	1,407 18 9	852 4 2	—	555 14 7
27. Public Works Department -	74 2 3	131 6 8	—	—	2,623 6 2	2,743 11 10	120 5 8	—
28. „ „ recurrent - -	849 10 1	572 8 3½	33 7 10	25 10 2	14,071 3 1	10,880 12 9½	—	3,190 10 3½
Total - - £	6,097 0 1	6,987 9 9½	1,880 18 9	2,193 14 3	114,198 19 9	114,504 4 11½	10,317 0 10½	10,011 15 8
29. Public Works Extraordinary -	630 18 8	315 16 2	100 0 0	25 12 0	11,961 17 4	12,484 13 1½	522 15 9½	—
Total - £	6,727 18 9	7,303 5 11½	1,980 18 9	2,219 6 3	126,160 17 1	126,988 18 1	10,839 16 8	10,011 15 8

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3.—Public Debt.

Antigua paid off the balance due on the 6 per cent. loan of 2,500*l.* raised in 1871, for the extension of the water supply, and the amount due to the St. John's Savings Bank was reduced from 7,000*l.* to 6,800*l.* The amount of the original debt incurred in 1881, was 8,890*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* The sinking fund for the ultimate payment of the 5,171*l.* six per cent. debentures issued in 1880, was raised from 1,555*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* to 1,735*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* and that for the loan of 12,000*l.* obtained in 1885, 1888, and 1890 for the water works, was increased from 956*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* to 1,339*l.* 14*s.* 6.

Debentures bearing interest at 4 per centum per annum were issued to the extent of 11,200*l.*, a loan of 25,000*l.* for the improvement of the water supply of the island having been authorised in 1890.

In St. Kitts out of the 9,000*l.* authorised for the improvement of the town of Basseterre 2,000*l.* was obtained, and out of the 23,500*l.* authorised for certain public works, 7,500*l.* was raised. The provisions of the ordinances requiring contributions to be made annually to the sinking funds, for the extinction of the two 1885 loans, and for the 1889 loan (3,900*l.*, 8,000*l.*, 9,000*l.*) were duly carried out.

In Dominica the amount to the 1875 and 1887 credit of the Roseau Water Works loans of 5,900*l.* was increased to 3,008*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* To the credit of the Public Works Loan of 1880 (5,000*l.*) there was a sum of 602*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*, and to that of the 1888 and 1890 loans (30,000*l.*) a sum of 325*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

In Montserrat the sinking funds, received their usual annual contributions, and a sum of 4,500*l.* was raised for Public Works.

4.—Public Works.

Omitting the cost of the departments, 2,744*l.*, the expenditure on the Public Works undertaken during 1891, was 23,365*l.*, or less by 2,668*l.* than in the previous year. On what may be called usual and annually necessary works 10,881*l.* was spent, while upon the unforeseen works, or works of an exceptional and special character, there was an outlay of 12,484*l.*

The expenditure in each Presidency was as follows:—

Presidency.	Recurrent.		Extraordinary.		Total Expenditure.
	Estimated.	Spent.	Estimated.	Spent.	
	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua	4,568	4,460	500	3,815	8,275
St. Kitts-Nevis	3,848	3,772	—	5,401	9,173
Dominica	2,580	2,050	883	2,927	4,977
Montserrat	546	573	200	316	889
Virgin Islands	50	26	—	25	51
Total	11,592	10,881	1,583	12,484	23,365

The annually recurrent expenditure is made up as follows.—

—	Antigua.	St. Kitts.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Repairs to public buildings -	518	315	675	48	15	1,571
Repairs &c., to roads, streets, and bridges - - -	3,179	2,388	925	400	11	6,903
Water works - - -	217	116	9	35	—	377
Fire brigade - - -	124	333	—	—	—	457
Botanical and public gardens -	50	154	402	78	—	684
Burial grounds, &c. - -	196	202	18	12	—	428
Government House and grounds	176	7	21	—	—	204
Miscellaneous - - -	—	257	—	—	—	257
Total - -	4,460	3,772	2,050	573	26	10,881

Various circumstances combined to compel the Government to execute many of the works classed as unforeseen. In Dominica the exceptionally heavy and disastrous floods necessitated a larger outlay upon the roads, in Anguilla the severe famine led to the expenditure on relief works, in St. Kitts additional hospital accommodation was urgently needed; here also, and at Antigua, the immediate necessity for an extension and alteration of the prison buildings was prominently brought to notice, while, as in the case of the telephone system, it was found that to meet growing demands progress necessitating outlay had to be made.

Although the whole of the 12,484*l.* spent upon exceptional works has formed a charge upon the current revenue, I think the expenditure upon the Pogson Hospital, the Anguilla Relief Works, the Roseau Embankment, extra roads, and other works, amounting in all to some 10,000*l.*, might fairly be met by loans.

Out of the funds raised by loan, much has been done to advance the interests of the Colony. In Antigua progress has been made with the scheme to supply the estates and villages with water, and various water-courses have been cleared and deepened; in St. Kitts a leper asylum was provided, the town of Basseterre improved, Stone Fort Road and a new Treasury building commenced; in Nevis considerable attention was paid to the roads and to the water supply.

In Montserrat the streets of Plymouth and many of the roads throughout the island have been much improved.

In Dominica a carriage road over 15 miles of very difficult country, and necessitating the erection of about 24 bridges and 120 culverts, was brought nearly to completion; various other roads

and several bridges opening up the interior of the island were completed and started upon.

5.—LEGISLATION.

The General Legislative Council was in session from the 23rd April to the 2nd May, and again by adjournment from the 12th to the 25th November. It passed 15 bills. Six of these received assent and were promulgated during 1891, 8 during 1892. One has been reserved.

Of the six which became law in 1891, three were money Bills, two amending Bills, and one, the most important, arranged for the establishment and maintenance of training schools. Further provision was made for elementary education and industrial training, our turtle fisheries were protected and restrictions placed upon immigrant paupers.

By the Small Charges Act (No. 11), which consolidates the law relating to certain offences punishable on summary conviction 21 ordinances or Acts of the several Presidencies were either totally or in part repealed, and by the Acts (12 and 13) to consolidate the laws relating to small trespasses and to the summary recovery of small tenements 14 Acts or ordinances were wholly repealed.

The five local Legislatures of the Colony passed between them 21 Bills, seven of which related to supplies and five to the Census, three continued in force certain Acts about to expire, two (at Montserrat) amended ordinances relating to taxes, three authorised the raising of loans to the amount of 34,500*l.* for various public works, and one provided for the improvement of the water supply in Montserrat. All of these received assent and were promulgated during 1891.

6.—CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Sir Henry T. Wrenfordsley, Knight, replaced Sir Henry Ludlow, Knight, as Chief Justice, the latter being pensioned. For a period of about five months the Attorney-General (Mr. C. G. Walpole) acted as Chief Justice, the Solicitor-General (Mr. C. H. Beard) acting as Attorney-General.

Four medical officers, Drs. Kirkpatrick, Cook, Nurse, and Forward, joined the staff, the last named having been appointed resident medical officer to the public hospital in Antigua, to which institution a European matron (Miss Freeth) was also appointed. Mr. C. A. Barber was appointed to the newly-created office of Superintendent of Agriculture, Mr. Mackay was

appointed magistrate at Anguilla, and two European officers were attached to the prison service.

Mr. Latouche was transferred from the office of Registrar and Provost Marshal in Dominica to a similar office in St. Kitts, and was succeeded in Dominica by Mr. Edwin Baynes.

The office of Postmaster in Antigua, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Read, was filled by the appointment of Mr. A. E. Eldridge.

Mr. Shepherd was appointed Superintendent of the Training School at Skerretts.

Mr. Edward Baynes, the Commissioner of Montserrat, acted as Commissioner of Dominica, while Mr. Le Hunte was on leave, and was succeeded at Montserrat by Mr. W. M. Gordon.

Mr. Field acted as Solicitor-General, Mr. N. Lockhart, Mr. R. Roden, and Mr. Chambers as magistrates for varying periods, and in addition to several other acting appointments some small offices changed hands.

7. PENSIONS.

During 1891, seven public officers retired on pension, viz. :— the Chief Justice (Sir Henry Ludlow), a Treasury official (Mr. Chittick), three policemen, a gaol warder, and a hospital servant.

Between them they increased the amount annually payable in superannuation allowances by the sum of 379*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* and brought the total on the 31st December, 1891, to 4,367*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* No pensioners died.

The amount payable by each presidency is as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Antigua - - - -	951	5	8
St. Kitts-Nevis - - -	2,494	19	8
Dominica - - - -	643	14	7
Montserrat - - - -	142	5	1
Virgin Islands - - -	134	16	2

POPULATION.

There were registered during the year 5,148 births, 546 marriages, and 4,163 deaths.

On the 5th April, when the census was taken, the population was 127,723 (5,070 whites, 23,320 coloured and 99,333 blacks)

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between that date and the end of the year there were registered 3,897 births and 2,886 deaths, raising the population on the 31st December, 1891, to 128,734.

Over 54 per cent. of the children born were illegitimate.

Presidency.	Population on 5th April, 1891.	Births.	Deaths.	Population on 31st December, 1891.	Marriages.
		Since registered.			
Antigua - - - -	36,119	1,283	1,022	36,380	169
Barbuda - - - -	580	26	24	582	5
Redonda - - - -	120	—	—	120	—
St. Kitts - - - -	30,876	972	605	31,243	163
Nevis - - - -	13,087	436	360	13,163	56
Anguilla - - - -	3,699	85	85	3,699	17
Dominica - - - -	26,841	605	373	27,073	58
Montserrat - - -	11,762	348	355	11,755	53
Virgin Islands - - -	4,639	142	62	4,719	25
Total - -	127,723	3,897	2,886	128,734	546

9.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

According to the returns sent in by the clergy of the various denominations the Colony possesses 127 places of worship, with accommodation for 55,450 persons, distributed as follows:—

Presidency.	Anglican.			Moravian.			Wesleyan.			Roman Catholic.		
	Churches.	Accommodation.	Attendance.	Churches.	Accommodation	Attendance.	Churches.	Accommodation.	Attendance.	Churches.	Accommodation.	Attendance.
Antigua - - - -	16	4,680	3,910	13	6,220	4,090	12	5,300	3,570	1	400	300
Barbuda - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	100	50	—	—	—
St. Kitts - - - -	10	3,740	2,910	4	2,950	1,400	13	5,780	4,830	1	600	350
Nevis - - - -	5	2,400	1,850	4	2,550	2,100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anguilla - - -	1	200	50	—	—	—	1	200	150	—	—	—
Dominica - - -	1	500	300	—	—	—	8	1,930	1,430	15	10,800	6,400
Montserrat - -	4	2,050	1,800	—	—	—	5	1,250	980	—	—	—
Virgin Islands - - -	4	500	210	—	—	—	8	3,300	1,035	—	—	—
Total - -	41	14,070	11,030	21	11,720	7,590	48	17,860	12,045	17	11,800	7,050

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10.—EDUCATION.

The provisions of the compulsory Education Act of 1890 applied during 1891 to the following districts, viz :—

St. John's, in the island of Antigua.

Basseterre, in the island of St. Kitts.

Roseau, in the island of Dominica.

The village of the island of Barbuda.

The islands of Nevis, Montserrat, Tortola, and Virgin Gorda.

There was an educational officer for each district.

There were 125 primary and 6 secondary schools.

Of the primary schools 109 received Government aid and 16 are entirely Government schools. All but the Government schools, the Mico, and the Olveston are denominational.

At the primary schools the numbers on the roll increased from 13,677 in 1890 to 17,686 in 1891, and the average attendance from 7,487 to 8,211.

The Government grants increased from a total of 3,631*l.* 2*s.* to 5,260*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

The school fees were about the same in 1891 as in 1890 (602*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* and 609*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* respectively), but there was a considerable falling off in the private contributions, only 805*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* having been received in 1891 as against 1,031*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* in 1890.

The large augmentation in the numbers on the roll and daily attending school is due entirely to the bringing into operation in the towns of the Compulsory Education Act and the large decrease in the amount of private aid clearly demonstrates that the maintenance of the schools will more and more fall on the Government, which can, I think, only relieve itself of an annually increasing burthen by the erection of central schools, and thus, while minimizing expenditure, provide for more practical and effective education at a comparatively small cost.

As showing the expenditure on primary schools in each Presidency the following statement may be found useful :—

1891.

Presidency.	Number of Schools.	Number on the Rolls.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Grants.	Private Contributions.	Total Receipts.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua - - - -	40	5,036	2,291	234 9 5	1,587 13 1	442 16 3	2,264 18 9
St. Kitts - - - -	30	4,812	2,197	104 11 2	1,222 16 8	134 19 4	1,462 7 2
Nevis - - - -	16	2,152	990	67 1 5	499 13 0	72 19 7	639 14 0
Dominica - - - -	22	2,784	1,247	106 14 8	1,415 19 6	20 14 0	1,543 8 2
Montserrat - - - -	12	2,411	1,278	68 18 3	410 13 0	102 18 11	582 10 2
Virgin Islands - - -	5	491	208	20 19 6	123 6 0	31 5 2	175 10 8
Total - -	125	17,686	8,211	602 14 5	5,260 1 3	805 13 3	6,668 8 11

Of the six secondary schools four are undenominational, one is Wesleyan, and one Moravian.

Between them they had 205 scholars on the rolls, with a total average attendance of 201. All are in receipt of Government grants except the Wesleyan Coke Memorial College, and arrangements for a grant to this school have been made.

The attendance at school of all children between the ages of 5 and 12 is compulsory under the Education Act, and from the Census of 1891 it would appear that there were some 26,000 children of these ages, while the pupils and teachers are shown as numbering 24,543 (pupils and teachers are not given separately). The returns of the inspector of schools, however, account for only 17,891 pupils, leading to the conclusion that some 7,000 or 8,000 children have yet to be brought into the schools, and this will probably be effected when the whole Colony is declared under the operation of the Act.

Out of a total population of 127,723 there are 37,715 who on the Sabbath generally attend some place of worship, and as the population include 34,359 children under the age of ten the percentage of church goers (40·4) is creditable.

11.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The gross value of the imports is returned at 419,286*l.*, that of the exports at 412,800*l.*

From the United Kingdom we received imports to the value of 180,060*l.* as against 219,074*l.* in 1890; but in this year, as in 1889, the total was raised by the exceptional importation of new machinery for the manufacture of sugar; there was, however, a general decrease in the articles of import, the natural sequence of a bad cane crop. The United States of America and British North America have steadily increased their exports to this Colony. During the last three years they were:—

—	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£
United States - - - -	143,153	147,212	159,144
British North America - -	17,890	19,823	20,388

Barbados, on the other hand, is gradually losing ground, and is ceasing to be, as it formerly was, a depôt for these islands.

Our imports of corn, flour, meal, and pickled fish from the United States of America showed the most noticeable increase, while with regard to British North America it will be observed that a trade in cane manures and flour is commencing.

The produce of the Colony was valued at 392,997*l.*, and was principally made up of sugar 298,391*l.*, molasses 33,010*l.*, fruits and fruit juices (limes) 23,065*l.*, and coffee and cocoa 13,919*l.* The bulk of the exports went to the United States of America, which took sugar to the value of 284,594*l.*, fruits 5,088*l.*, molasses 3,120*l.*, and other articles, making a total of 296,754*l.*

To the United Kingdom we shipped a greater proportion of our exports than last year. They were valued at 52,431*l.* as against 41,698*l.* in 1890, when the exports of the Colony were greater. They included fruit and fruit juices to the value of 16,696*l.*, coffee and cocoa 13,310*l.*, sugar 12,029*l.*, rum 3,795*l.*, and molasses 5,590*l.* The proportion of exports to British North America fell off slightly, the figures being as 5·58 to 6·92. Only 31*l.* worth of sugar was shipped thence, as against 4,130*l.* in 1890.

Our chief staple, sugar, fell from 36,954 tons to 27,677, and molasses from 12,920 puncheons to 9,124. The falling off in these was general throughout the Colony, and due to the want of rain in the early part of the year. A good trade is springing up in fruit and fruit juices, and the shipments increased from 16,418*l.* in 1890 to 23,065*l.* in 1891.

In 1890 there were no shipments of fruit from Antigua, but in 1891 they were valued at 1,751*l.*, and consisted chiefly of the pines for which the island has a high reputation. The Dominica and Montserrat shipments, composed mostly of limes, which grow luxuriantly in both islands, were valued at 10,166*l.* and 10,019*l.* respectively.

In coffee and cocoa a large advance was made in Dominica, which increased its output from 410,330 lbs. in 1890 to 777,704 lbs. in 1891. St. Kitts and Montserrat also made efforts in this direction. In St. Kitts, including the salt ponds of Anguilla, the export of salt rose from 15,065 barrels to 30,532. Of the total value of the exports from the Virgin Islands (4,663*l.*) the trade in cattle and small stock accounted for 3,705*l.*; there was a slight falling off in this trade during the year.

The "internal trade," or trade between the islands of the Colony, fostered as it is by the Federal steamer "Tyne," is developing; it was valued at 30,460*l.* in 1891, as against 27,978*l.* in 1890, and there is every reason to hope that a far more extended trade will ultimately result.

VALUE OF THE COLONY'S TRADE WITH THE COUNTRIES SPECIFIED.

Countries.	Imports from				Exports to			
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	184,150	201,159	219,074	180,060	59,970	54,445	41,698	52,431
British North America - -	15,931	17,890	19,832	20,388	36,965	51,331	35,576	22,051
Barbados - - -	26,757	28,390	27,633	24,039	2,494	2,600	2,567	1,614
Other British Colonies - - -	5,849	3,811	3,963	3,178	595	1,351	2,578	1,131
United States of America - -	147,531	143,151	147,212	159,695	377,693	545,388	387,223	296,754
Other Foreign countries - -	13,301	21,812	20,180	16,995	18,545	19,810	29,812	23,290
	£393,519	416,215	437,885	404,355	496,262	674,925	499,454	397,271
Internal Trade - - -	11,691	12,764	13,875	14,931	13,547	14,858	14,103	15,529
Total - -	£405,210	428,979	451,760	419,286	509,809	689,783	513,557	412,800

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF IMPORT FROM THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES.

United Kingdom.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1891 as against 1890.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic liquors -	9,264	8,406	8,908	502	—
Boots and shoes -	7,803	8,982	6,697	—	2,285
Coal, &c. - -	2,508	1,490	1,132	—	358
Cottons and woollens -	58,138	60,842	53,376	—	7,466
Earthen and glass ware	2,520	2,767	2,134	—	633
Fancy goods, toys, &c.	2,403	2,662	2,042	—	620
Rice - - -	7,104	7,538	8,847	1,309	—
Government stores -	5,892	7,722	4,625	—	3,097
Haberdashery, &c. -	22,886	27,544	24,093	—	3,451
Hardware - -	14,775	16,729	12,984	—	3,745
Leather and saddlery -	3,740	3,394	2,531	—	863
Sugar machinery -	10,628	16,814	6,289	—	10,525
Manures - -	15,424	15,823	10,889	—	4,934
Groceries - -	4,096	4,783	4,883	100	—
Soap - - -	3,648	3,281	3,607	326	—
Other articles - -	30,258	30,297	27,023	—	3,274
	201,159	219,074	180,060	2,237	41,251

British North America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1891 as against 1890.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Fish, dried and pickled	12,649	12,160	12,808	648	—
White pine and spruce	3,966	4,202	2,202	—	2,000
Manures - -	—	8	1,005	997	—
Flour - - -	—	10	1,155	1,145	—
Other articles - -	1,276	3,443	3,218	—	225
	17,890	19,823	20,388	2,790	2,225

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Barbados.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1891 as against 1890.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cottons and woollens -	2,270	1,454	1,770	316	—
Manures - -	1,860	1,580	410	—	1,170
Fish, dried and pickled	9,414	9,968	7,061	—	2,907
Flour - - -	1,770	2,573	2,135	—	438
Shooks - -	1,522	1,361	461	—	900
Other articles - -	9,164	10,697	12,202	1,505	—
	26,000	27,633	24,039	1,821	5,415

United States of America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1891 as against 1890.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Corn - - -	6,339	7,973	10,544	2,571	—
Bread biscuits - -	3,599	4,476	5,373	897	—
Flour - - -	42,299	50,456	56,811	6,355	—
Meal - - -	8,177	10,089	15,316	5,227	—
Meal oil and linseed -	5,430	6,810	6,414	—	396
Butter - - -	4,089	3,542	3,350	—	192
Cheese - -	1,675	1,789	1,280	—	509
Lard - - -	2,230	1,650	1,788	138	—
Pork - - -	15,365	11,679	12,309	630	—
Petroleum oil - -	3,525	3,233	2,945	—	288
Tobacco - -	4,823	3,523	2,595	—	928
White pine and spruce	2,767	6,926	5,106	—	1,820
Shooks - -	14,210	2,555	2,855	300	—
Pitch pine - -	1,539	3,418	3,764	346	—
Shingles, Cypress and Wallaba - -	1,173	1,302	1,404	102	—
Fish (dried and pickled)	1,690	1,951	3,621	1,670	—
Beef (salted) - -	2,848	3,448	2,262	—	1,186
Miscellaneous articles of food - -	3,982	3,962	4,407	445	—
Other articles - -	17,393	18,430	17,551	—	879
	143,153	147,212	159,695	18,681	6,198

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:—

United Kingdom.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1891 as against 1890.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Fruits and fruit juices -	8,935	12,421	16,696	4,27	—
Coffee and cocoa -	10,260	6,069	13,310	7,241	—
Rum - - -	2,284	478	3,795	3,317	—
Sugar - - -	28,097	19,079	12,029	—	7,050
Molasses - -	75	990	5,590	4,600	—
Other articles - -	4,794	2,661	1,011	—	1,650
	54,445	41,698	52,431	19,433	8,700

British North America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1891 as against 1890.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Sugar - - -	9,436	4,130	31	—	4,099
Molasses - -	41,195	29,926	20,832	—	9,094
Other articles - -	700	1,520	1,188	—	332
	51,331	35,576	22,051	—	13,525

United States of America.

Articles.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1891 as against 1890.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Fruits and fruit juices -	8,643	5,826	5,088	—	738
Sugar - - -	517,240	372,822	284,594	—	88,228
Molasses - -	17,294	5,288	3,120	—	2,168
Other articles - -	2,211	3,287	3,952	665	—
	545,388	387,223	296,754	665	91,134

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT FROM EACH PRESIDENCY.

Articles.	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Colony.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	891.	1890.	1891.
Produce of the Colony.												
Fruits and fruit juices - £	—	1,751	180	721	9,175	10,166	7,063	10,019	85	408	16,418	23,065
Coffee and cocoa - - lbs.	—	—	—	1,500	410,330	777,704	61	195	—	—	410,391	779,399
Sugar - - - Tons	16,120	12,091	17,110	12,890	2,312	1,636	1,411	1,035	1	25	36,954	27,677
Rum - -Proof Gallons	—	—	34,650	74,401	1,226	498	—	—	—	—	35,876	74,899
Molasses - - Puns.	7,541	5,059	4,598	3,686	410	188	391	198	—	—	12,920	9,124
Cattle - - - £	97	18	—	—	125	76	404	393	3,303	3,170	3,929	3,657
Essential oils and essences - £	—	—	—	—	932	1,049	363	567	—	—	1,295	1,616
Salt - - - Barrels	—	—	15,065	30,436	—	—	—	—	—	96	15,065	30,532
Turtle, tortoise and tortoise shells £	444	412	158	104	33	17	15	2	5	2	655	537
Foreign produce re-exported - £	15,23	2,050	7,672	9,055	1,099	440	72	46	2	306	10,368	11,897
Internal trade - - £	4,416	5,697	7,147	6,388	1,662	1,531	808	1,835	63	78	14,103	15,529

12.—SHIPPING.

In the accompanying tables, I show the direction of the trade during 1890 and 1891, aud the number of steam and sailing vessels which have entered and cleared in these years. The figures in the latter statement represent the entries inwards and clearances outwards combined. Only one foreign trading vessel (a Norwegian steamer) arrived in the Colony. The increase in the steam vessel-traffic is due entirely to the running between the islands of the Colony of the steamer subsidized by the Government, and the falling off in the number of sailing vessels is due mainly to the same cause, but partly to the commercial depression experienced throughout the year.

	1889.				1890.				1891.			
	Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	308	331,970	582	27,563	374	396,934	645	29,675	476	414,190	681	25,611
Foreign	—	—	127	26,431	20	23,680	137	19,558	—	—	107	16,201
ST. KITTS-NEVIS.												
British	314	331,206	1,045	37,225	392	412,238	1,194	28,692	442	406,980	1,379	29,413
Foreign	—	—	816	19,717	26	25,406	1,040	21,725	—	—	932	21,092
DOMINICA.												
British	252	283,918	492	11,044	294	314,756	602	12,723	368	368,676	548	13,191
Foreign	—	—	76	1,004	10	11,396	142	3,942	2	550	101	1,216
MONTSERRAT.												
British	214	292,182	455	15,235	220	237,754	513	15,272	344	331,560	526	12,886
Foreign	—	—	69	1,206	2	2,840	48	894	—	—	68	1,285
VIRGIN ISLANDS.												
British	—	—	3,484	8,358	—	—	3,329	8,179	62	16,988	2,824	6,656
Foreign	—	—	13	148	—	—	68	723	—	—	69	571
Total — British	1,08	1,239,276	6,058	99,425	1,280	1,361,682	6,283	94,541	1,692	1,538,394	5,958	87,757
Total — Foreign	—	—	1,101	48,506	58	63,322	1,435	46,842	2	550	1,277	40,365
Total	1,088	1,239,276	7,159	147,931	1,338	1,425,004	7,718	141,383	1,694	1,538,944	7,235	128,122

Entered from 1890.				Entered from 1891.				Countries.	Cleared to 1891.				Cleared to 1890.			
Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.			Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
								BRITISH PORTS.								
12	11,507	4	1,040	6	5,790	3	576	United Kingdom - - -	2	1,951	2	333	5	5,244	1	233
35	34,464	271	20,377	18	18,401	194	15,601	British West Indies - -	17	15,690	157	8,928	29	27,709	224	9,726
7	5,786	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bermuda - - - -	8	8,870	—	—	7	5,910	—	—
—	—	21	2,457	—	—	19	2,186	British North America - -	—	—	31	4,213	—	—	37	5,192
—	—	6	572	—	—	—	—	British Guiana - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	36
369	383.287	672	14,799	549	443,763	850	15,969	Leeward Islands (Internal trade).	547	442,248	862	16,520	352	374,862	661	14,425
423	435,044	974	39,245	573	467 954	1,066	34,332		574	468,759	1,052	29,994	393	413,725	924	29,612
								FOREIGN PORTS.								
29	25,994	35	7,849	11	10,485	33	8,525	United States - - -	34	33,166	47	11,577	31	27,926	61	14,530
164	188,454	405	10,716	196	222,414	399	9,089	French - - - -	174	207,886	368	5,341	184	198,886	404	7,106
5	5,019	709	7,075	3	2,647	608	6,350	Dutch - - - -	2	1,082	626	8,491	—	—	715	9,485
51	61,139	1,707	4,953	64	65,972	1,504	4,318	Danish - - - -	56	51,913	1,469	5,555	48	56,213	1,736	6,957
—	—	8	548	—	—	15	1,045	Spanish - - - -	4	3,915	19	2,450	7	10,022	11	1,636
—	—	1	180	—	—	—	—	Portuguese - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Mexican and Central America -	3	2,751	2	591	3	2,582	1	293
—	—	2	295	—	—	2	313	Brazil and South America -	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	648
—	—	14	153	—	—	2	15	Hayti and San Domingo -	—	—	23	136	—	—	9	102
249	280,606	2,881	31,769	274	301,518	2,563	29,655		273	300,713	2,554	34,141	273	295,629	2,939	40,757
672	715,650	3,855	71,014	847	769,572	3,629	63,987		847	769,472	3,606	64,135	666	709,354	3,863	70,369

NOTE.—There appear 6 steamers, 6,296 tons, more entered than cleared in 1890. This error is in the Dominica return 1890.

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13.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

2,225 persons were committed to the gaols during the year, 104 being for safe custody, and for want of security, and 2,121 for penal imprisonment. They consisted of 1,395 men, 784 women, and 46 juveniles. The total shows an increase of 118 over the figures of 1890. Of those committed to penal imprisonment, 245 had been previously convicted once, 226 twice, and 361 three times or more; 2,015 were committed for 3 months or less, 57 for more than 3 months, 44 for 12 months or more, and 5 for five years or more.

With a larger number of prisoners in 1891, the admissions to hospital were fewer than in 1890, being 308 as against 374. In Antigua Gaol, where there were 728 prisoners, the admissions numbered 47. St. Kitts, with 750 prisoners, returns 65; Nevis, with 132, returns 81; and Dominica, with 494, returns 115. In Montserrat, with 100 prisoners, there were no admissions to hospital.

The sanitary condition of all the gaols was equally good throughout the year, and yet in St. Kitts, Nevis and Dominica, where the daily average number of prisoners in confinement was far less than in Antigua, there appear to have been a greater number of sick.

Gaol.	Daily Average.	No. of Admissions.
Antigua - - - -	135	47
St. Kitts - - - -	41	65
Nevis - - - -	11	81
Dominica - - - -	24	115
Montserrat - - - -	5	—
Virgin Islands - - -	3	—

I can offer no satisfactory explanation of this, unless it be that in some gaols prisoners are more readily admitted to hospital than in others.

The punishments apparently increased from 685 in 1890 to 1,444 in 1891, but the latter include 886 trivial punishments, which in previous years would not have been recorded.

In the Antigua Gaol, on an average there were only four punishments a day, with a daily average of 135 risoners, and

there the 1,310 punishments were borne by 257 prisoners, several of whom show as many as 37 entries against their names

There were no escapes during the year. There were 6 deaths, all at Antigua. Two from syncope, two from bronchitis, one from heart disease, and one from fever.

The prisons in Antigua, St. Kitts and Dominica, underwent several much needed alterations to the cells, and other parts of the buildings; in Antigua the work was performed entirely by prison labour. These alterations, with the increased attention and supervision which has been given, have resulted in a very marked improvement in discipline. But there can be no proper discipline in either gaol until arrangements be made for separate cells instead of association wards.

In Antigua and St. Kitts cranks were introduced, and in the former prison a mechanical arrangement to control and record the number of revolutions of the treadwheel has been of much advantage.

During the year several industries were introduced into the Antigua Gaol. Prisoners now make and bake the bread and biscuits for their own consumption as well as for the public hospital, the poor house and lunatic and leper asylums; they make, mend and wash their own clothing, make the uniforms for the prison officers of the Colony, and also boots for themselves, their officers, the police and charitable institutions. They also make and mend carts for prison use, and have been taught to quarry and dress stones for building purposes. A small stone bridge or culvert has recently been erected in the public park, which reflects some credit upon the prison. No interference with local trades has occurred, nor has there been any competition with the public, but already many prisoners have been taught trades of which they had no previous knowledge, while, in addition to the more economical administration of the gaol effected, several lads have left prison at the expiration of their sentences qualified to earn their living at the trade taught during confinement.

14.—Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or magistrate was 165,596.

For offences against the person - - -	3793
Præ lial larceny - - - -	1377
Against property other than prædial larceny -	2512
Other offences - - - - -	8914

and for these offences 16,087 persons were taken before the magistrates, 7,915 of whom were discharged, 8,001 summarily convicted, and 171 committed for trial in the Supreme Court.

Nature of offences.	Reported to the police.	Discharged for want of evidence.	Dismissed on merits.	Summarily convicted.	Sent for trial.	Total.
Offences against the person - -	3,793	1,307	860	1,533	78	3,778
Prædial rceny -	1,377	507	174	680	6	1,367
Offences against property other than prædial larceny - -	2,512	988	437	960	58	2,443
Other offences -	8,914	1,716	1,926	4,828	29	8,499
Total - -	16,596	4,518	3,397	8,001	171	16,087

Of those summarily convicted 5,400 paid fines, 1,718 were committed to prison in lieu of payment of fines, 537 were peremtorily imprisoned, 79 whipped, and 267 bound over.

2,800 were convicted in Antigua, 2,540 in St. Kitts and Nevis, 2,266 in Dominica, 313 in Montserrat, and 82 in the Virgin Islands.

Punishment.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
Fined - - -	2,096	1,517	1,527	201	59	5,400
Imprisoned in lieu of fine - - -	438	669	534	65	12	1,718
Peremptorily imprisoned -	225	214	55	36	7	537
Whipped - -	—	54	14	11	—	79
Bound over - -	41	86	136	—	4	267
Totals - -	2,800	2,540	2,266	313	82	8,001

In the Supreme Court, in addition to the 171 cases committed for trial in 1891, there were heard 57 cases which remained over from 1890.

There were 142 convictions, 38 acquittals, 13 nolle prosequi and 35 cases held over.

—	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
Pending end of 1890	39	18	—	—	—	57
Committed in 1891	73	41	30	5	22	
Total -	112	59	30	5	22	228
Convicted - -	72	33	18	3	16	142
Acquitted - -	14	9	11	2	2	38
Nolle prosequi -		4	1	—	1	13
Still pending - -	19	13	—	—	3	35
Total -	112	59	30	5	22	228

There was a falling off in crime as compared with the year 1890, the convictions being only 6·37 per cent. of the population instead of nearly 8 per cent. Only 16,087 cases were tried, as against 19,812 in 1890, and although the returns show an increase of convictions in the superior courts (142 in 1891, 96 in 1890) those of the magistrates' courts show a considerable falling off, 8,001 as against 8,421.

The Colony passed through a very trying year; there was a general depression in trade, a feeling of uncertainty as to the future engendered by the McKinley Tariff Bill, and there was a very serious famine in Anguilla. That there should in these circumstances have been a decrease in crime is remarkable, but I attribute the fact to the policy of the Government in finding employment for the people on various public works.

Presidency.	Population.	Number convicted or bound over.	Percentage.
Antigua, (with Barbuda 580, and Redonda 120)	36,819	2,872	7·80
St. Kitts-Nevis, (with Anguilla 3,669) -	47,662	2,573	5·39
Dominica - -	26,841	2,284	8·50
Montserrat - -	11,762	316	2·68
Virgin islands - -	4,639	98	2·10
Colony - - -	127,723	8,143	6·37

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15.—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

The returns show that 3,349 cases were treated in the eight hospitals of the Colony during the year. These figures include 135 persons admitted as paupers to the Cunningham Hospital, St. Kitts. At the end of the year 559 persons remained under treatment, 431 patients having died, 1,608 having been discharged cured, 690 as relieved and 61 as not improved. There were 1,466 medical cases with 342 deaths, 858 surgical cases with 63 deaths, 203 obstetrical cases with two deaths, and among the 687 treated for diseases to special senses, there were 24 deaths.

There were 164 cases of yaws in the Yaws Hospital at Dominica.

The deaths totalled 431, and were 13·41 per cent. of the cases treated; but, as I have stated in a previous report, the large majority of persons only go to hospital when they are in a more or less moribund state. Out of 215 deaths in the hospital, Antigua, 69, or 32·55 per cent., occurred within 15 days of admission.

The following tables give details for each hospital:—

Hospitals.

		Remaining at beginning of 1891.	Admitted in 1891.	Discharged			Dead.	Remaining at end of 1891.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Antigua	Male	26	514	274	154	—	87	25
	Female	62	669	169	252	—	128	182
St. Kitts-Nevis.								
Cunningham	Male	55	577	384	95	1	72	80
	Female	60	475	336	76	—	60	63
Sandy Point	Male	11	56	23	12	2	12	18
	Female	12	37	22	5	—	11	11
Nevis	Male	26	57	30	6	15	10	22
	Female	21	55	22	7	9	13	25
Dominica.								
Roseau	Male	18	170	111	28	21	10	18
	Female	12	112	68	29	10	5	12
Yaws	Male	18	77	84	3	—	—	8
	Female	15	51	52	3	—	—	11
Montserrat	Male	26	32	11	8	1	9	29
	Female	41	55	19	9	1	13	54
Virgin Islands	Male	1	4	2	3	—	—	—
	Female	—	4	1	—	1	1	1
Total		404	2,945*	1,608	690	61	431	559

* Includes 135 St. Kitts paupers.

—	Antigua.		Cunningham.		Sandy Point.		Nevis.		Dominica (two)		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Medical - - - -	710	188	368	95	45	17	88	17	110	8	143	17	2	—	1,466	342
Surgical - - - -	161	15	448	28	33	2	59	6	137	6	10	5	5	1	858	63
Obstetrical - - -	176	1	12	—	7	1	6	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	203	2
Special senses - - -	224	11	204	9	26	3	6	—	226	1	—	—	1	—	687	24
	1,271	215	1,032	132	116	23	159	23	473	15	154	22	9	1	3,214	431

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The appointment of an experienced European matron and of a medical officer to reside in the hospital at Antigua has been productive of much benefit and has resulted in the patients receiving more care and attention. The nursing staff at St. Kitts and Antigua benefited by the instruction received from a trained nurse who came out specially from England for temporary service in the Colony, and generally much has been done towards improving our hospital arrangements, but with regard to Antigua it is felt that a new hospital is very much needed, and that but little substantial progress can be made until one has been provided. The present hospital consists of a wing of the old military barracks ; one detached building of fair proportions, and four or five wooden huts scattered about the grounds.

The lunatic asylum at Rat Island, Antigua, is another building quite unfitted for the purpose to which it is placed, and in the erection of any new hospital building the requirements necessary in the more advanced treatment of lunacy should be borne in mind.

It will be seen from the accompanying tables that at the end of 1890 there were under treatment at the Rat Island and Ridge lunatic asylums 97 patients, and that 50 additional were received during 1891 from the various Presidencies, 20 inmates died and 13 were discharged temporarily cured, leaving a total of 114 at the end of the year, 78 at Rat Island and 35 convalescing at the Ridge.

Rat Island.

	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining end of 1890 -	17	15	4	8	8	3	3	4	3	1	35	31
Admitted in 1891 - -	15	16	2	2	4	6	2	—	1	2	24	26
Total -	32	31	6	10	12	9	5	4	4	3	59	57
Sent to the Ridge - -	11	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	3
Total -	21	30	5	8	12	9	5	4	4	3	47	54
Discharged - - -	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	4
Balance -	21	29	5	7	12	8	5	3	4	3	47	50
Died - - - -	7	7	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	12	7
Remaining end of 1891 -	14	22	4	7	10	8	3	3	4	3	35	43

The Ridge.

—	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining end of 1890	6	11	5	3	3	1	1	1	—	—	15	16
Admitted in 1891	11	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	3
Total	17	12	6	5	3	1	1	1	—	—	27	19
Discharged	7	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	2
Balance	10	11	6	5	3	—	1	1	—	—	20	17
Died	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Remaining end of 1891	10	10	6	5	3	—	1	1	—	—	20	16

In the leper asylum at Rat Island, consisting of a few wooden huts and separated from main building by a wall, there were at the end of 1891 30 patients; 8 deaths occurred. There is no law in Antigua under which those suffering from leprosy can be compulsorily segregated and it is found very difficult to retain within the asylum those who voluntarily enter it, notwithstanding the fact that they are well cared for and better fed than in their own homes. In Antigua, however, there are but few cases of leprosy, the census only returning 45 in a population of 36,119.

Lepers at Rat Island, Antigua.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining end of 1890	12	18	30
Admitted in 1891	6	3	9
Total	18	21	39
Discharged	1	—	1
Died	5	3	8
Remaining end of 1891	12	18	30

In St. Kitts a law providing for the maintenance at the public expense of leper paupers was passed in October 1890, and in 1891 an old military fort (Fort Charles), situated about a mile from the town of Sandy Point, was converted into a leper asylum. It

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comprises about four acres of land enclosed by walls 30 feet high. It is close to the sea shore and has an ample supply of excellent water. 56 males and 32 females were inmates of the asylum, 14 died and 3 were discharged, 8 of the deaths were the result of dysentery, 1 of diarrhoea, and 5 of leprosy.

It is only in Antigua and Dominica that there are poor houses set apart for the reception of paupers, in the other Presidencies paupers become inmates of the hospitals whether they need professional treatment or not.

In the Antigua poor-house there were 76 paupers at the end of the year, the average daily number was 63. The sum of 314*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* was disbursed on out-door relief and was distributed among 215 people. 153 persons is the average number relieved weekly.

In Dominica 536*l.* was expended upon the inmates of the poor-house, who numbered 218. On the out-door relief list there were only seven persons.

The following are the details of the numbers received into the Antigua and Dominica poor-houses :—

—	Antigua.			Dominica.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining end of 1890 - -	13	45	58	42	36	78
Admitted in 1891 -	45	65	110	80	60	140
Total - -	58	110	168	122	96	218
Discharged -	28	54	82	73	40	113
Died - -	3	7	10	17	30	47
Remaining end of 1891 - -	27	49	76	32	26	58

On the 14th May 1891 an act was passed for the establishment and management of training schools. Under this Act children under the age of 16, may, in certain circumstances, be sent to a training school until attaining the age of 18. In June 1891 a training school in Antigua (Skerrett's School) was ready for the reception of boys, and in the seven months to the end of the year admitted 117 from the various parts of the Colony. The following table shows the number received from each Presidency, and, with other particulars, that 68 per cent. of the children could neither read nor write on their reception :—

—	Numbers received.	8 to 10 years of age.	10 to 13 years of age.	13 to 16 years of age.	Neither read nor write.	Read and write imperfectly.	Read and write fairly well.	Could say alphabet.
Antigua - - -	45	11	20	14	29	6	6	4
St. Kitts - - -	37	6	13	18	25	5	2	5
Nevis - - -	24	4	14	6	17	1	3	3
Dominica - - -	5	—	5	—	3	1	—	1
Montserrat - - -	6	1	4	1	6	—	—	—
Virgin Islands - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - -	117	22	56	39	80	13	11	13

Four boys were discharged during the year, one, an idiot, returned to the poor-house, one was ill with phthisis and sent to the public hospital, and one died of ague after a few hours' illness. 178 cases were treated in the hospital attached to the school; they chiefly consisted of malarial fever, 60; ulcers, 41; diarrhœa, 33; and dysentery, 13.

The boys spend a fixed number of hours in school each week and are drilled regularly.

Some 62 acres of land were cleared and brought under cultivation during the year. A stock farm established in connection with the school promises to be of considerable service in improving the breed of cattle and horses throughout the Colony.

In addition to the charitable institutions referred to there has been recently established in St. John's, Antigua, a crèche, or public nursery, where children may be left while their parents attend their daily avocations.

It is chiefly used by the field labourers and is fairly well patronised during what is called the "crop time."

16.—METEOROLOGICAL.

The results of the observations made at the Government Laboratory at Antigua are given in the accompanying table.

Taking the average of the daily maximum shade temperature, September is found to be the hottest month with an average maximum shade temperature of 89° F. The highest shade temperature recorded in any single day was 93° F. on October 3. Taking the average of the daily minimum temperature, March is found to be the coldest month, the lowest temperature recorded being 60° F. on the 19-20th of that month. The highest barometer reading was 30·30 inches (uncorrected for temperature) on February 15–16th and the lowest 29·92 on October 13th. The steady rise of the dew point, indicating an

increase in the amount of moisture in the atmosphere, from May to September and its decline from September to December is of interest from the fact that a similar rise and fall was observed to take place during the corresponding months of 1890, although the rainfall differed very markedly from that of 1891.

The rainfall for the year was 57·40 inches, the greatest fall recorded being 2·1 inches in the 24 hours ending 9 a.m. on April 20th and a similar amount on November 21st.

One cyclonic storm of great violence passed over this region in August. This storm, which was of small area but great intensity, passed over the island of Martinique on the evening of the 18th, causing great loss of life and property; its course thence was N.N.E., crossing Porto Rico and Florida and dying away in the northern part of the Gulf of Mexico on August 25th; at the same time a second cyclone (respecting which in its early stages little seems to be known) was travelling in a direction almost parallel to the previous one, gradually recurving from latitude 25 N. passing near Bermuda, and, finally recrossing the Atlantic from W. to E., it died out about 1st or 2nd September somewhere to the N.W. of the Scotch Coast. This storm appears to have been of large area, and affected the barometers at this station more than the storm passing over Martinique.

Another storm of small intensity appears to have originated about 100 miles west of Dominica on October 13th, and passing somewhat to the east of St. Croix developed into a storm of dangerous energy, travelling northward and eastward across the track of shipping between New York, Bermuda, and the West Indies. The low barometer of 13th October was due to the passing of this cyclone.

The tracks of several other cyclones originating between the 10–20th parallels of latitude were too distant to produce any marked effect at Antigua.

As will be seen by the following statement, the amount of rainfall varied in each Presidency of the Colony, and was highest in Dominica:—

——	Antigua.	St. Kitts.	Dominica.	Montserrat.
January	5·38	3·21	2 64	6·61
February	2·03	1·41	6·78	2·13
March	0·57	0·01	0·10	0·00
April	4·85	1·21	0·76	1·47
May	2·29	1·38	3·38	4·52
June	4·47	2·38	5·74	4·25
July	7·78	5·45	13·68	11·27
August	5·73	7·49	9·99	5·81
September	5·31	4·98	5·92	7·02
October	7·98	10·91	10·83	11·72
November	7·90	7·22	16·51	9·16
December	3·11	4·26	4·56	3·79
Total	57·40	49·91	80.89	67·75

The following is from the Meteorological Register kept at the Government Laboratory, St. John's, Antigua, during 1891 :—

—	Thermometer.				Dew Point.		Thermometer.		Barometer.	
	Dry		Wet							
	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Max.	Min.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.
January -	77½	79½	71	72	66¾	67¾	82½	68½	30·19	30·15
February	76¾	79	69	69½	64½	65	82½	69½	30·23	30·19
March -	78¾	81¾	70½	71½	64¾	65	84	67	30·16	30·14
April -	81	83	73¾	74½	70	69¼	86	72	30·18	30·15
May -	82¾	84	74	75½	68¾	69	87	73	30·16	30·15
June -	83	83½	76	76	71½	71½	87½	74½	30·19	30·16
July -	82	84	76¾	77	73	73	87	75	30·21	30·18
August -	83	84¾	77	78	73½	74½	87¾	74½	30·19	30·16
September	84	85	77¾	78½	73¾	74	89	73½	30·15	30·11
October -	83½	84½	77½	74	74	73	88½	73	30·10	30·04
November	79	82	76	76	73	72	86½	72	30·12	30·04
December	78	81½	72¾	74	69¾	68¾	84	69¼	30·17	30·12

All figures in this table are the *means* of the daily readings, and the barometer is 40 feet above sea level; the readings are corrected for altitude but not for temperature or gravity.

17. *Savings Banks.*

The sum of 22,982*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* was added to the deposits in the five savings banks of the Colony, and from them was withdrawn 24,210*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* leaving at the end of the year 56,052*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* to the credit of 2,171 depositors. 54,031*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* of this sum was invested in various securities.

At the end of 1890 there was a sum of 56,596*l.* to the credit of 2,073 depositors, 23,911*l.* and 22,969*l.* having been deposited and withdrawn respectively during the year, so that while the balances at the end of the years 1890 and 1891 were about the same, there was 1,000*l.* less deposited and 1,300*l.* more withdrawn in 1891 than in 1890.

The number of depositors increased from 2,073 to 2,171.

In Dominica there were 57 more depositors than in 1890 and there was an additional 465*l.* in the bank.

This is a small sum comparatively, but it is almost a tenth of the whole amount deposited, and the fact that there has been this increase may, I think, be taken as an indication, one of many, that the action of the Government in opening up the country by the erection of bridges and construction of roads is beginning to make itself beneficially felt.

The increase in the amount of withdrawals occurred principally at Antigua, where money was re-invested in Government Loans at higher interest.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

I attach statements of detail.

Bank.	No. of Depositors.		Deposited.		Withdrawn.		To credit	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	1,466	1,490	15,185	14,708	13,905	15,593	40,274	39,409
St. Kitts - - -	266	271	3,487	2,836	3,610	3,387	6,677	6,126
Nevis - - -	77	72	1,278	643	1,169	700	3,228	3,172
Dominica - - -	183	240	2,124	2,356	1,703	2,115	4,408	4,774
Montserrat - -	81	98	1,837	2,440	2,582	2,416	2,009	2,572
Virgin Islands - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - -	2,073	2,171	23,911	22,983	22,969	24,211	56,596	56,053

Number of Depositors in Sums of

—	Under 1*l.*		1*l.* to 10*l.*		10*l.* to 20*l.*	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
Antigua - -	514	533	546	636	129	132
St. Kitts - -	42	49	99	97	36	34
Nevis - -	2	4	29	26	7	7
Dominica - -	33	49	73	103	21	31
Montserrat - -	19	28	28	29	9	9
Total -	610	663	775	891	202	213

—	20*l.* to 50*l.*		50*l.* to 100*l.*		Over 100*l.*	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
Antigua - -	113	121	58	66	106	102
St. Kitts - -	48	54	20	23	21	14
Nevis - -	16	12	8	8	15	15
Dominica -	26	27	18	17	12	13
Montserrat -	11	16	7	7	7	9
Total -	214	230	111	121	161	153

FRED. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

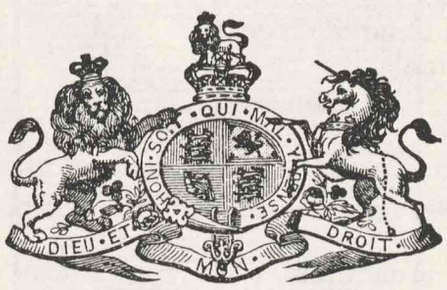
No. 77.

LEEWARD ISLANDS

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 51.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1893.



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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889&'90
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 77.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 51.)

Sir W. F. HAYNES SMITH to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

Government House, Dominica,
May 1, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Colony of the Leeward Islands for the year 1892, together with a very full report from the Colonial Secretary.

2. From the tables which have been prepared by the Colonial Secretary, it appears that the total amount collected for the purposes of government is twenty shillings and threepence halfpenny per head of the population of the Colony, and this sum includes not only all taxes, but all rates, and all amounts paid for licenses. Of this sum, six shillings and twopence farthing per head are directly returned in medical relief and education.

3. The cost of the administration of justice, and of the maintenance of the prisons, and of the police is three shillings and eightpence per head of the population. The cost of the collection of the revenue is one shilling and three pence halfpenny per head, leaving only nine shillings and one penny three-farthings per head to expend for all other purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. F. HAYNES SMITH.

The Most Hon.
the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua,
April 10, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my Report on the Returns forming the Blue Book of the Leeward Islands Colony for the year 1892.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRED. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir W. F. Haynes Smith, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

TAXES, DUTIES, FEES.

This portion of the Blue book has been considerably amplified and a thorough revision, rendered necessary by the new fiscal arrangements to meet the terms of the convention for reciprocal trade with the United States of America, has been made. As a preface to the information given, I have inserted in the Blue Book a schedule of the laws, and the authorities under which the various sources of revenue in each Presidency are collected.

I 76800. Wt. 10230.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1892.

The principal alterations have been under Customs and Excise. The Customs duties have been made practically uniform throughout the Colony; the new laws contain in as concise a form as possible the articles on which import duties shall be paid, the rates payable, the articles which shall be admitted free under the terms of the Convention with the United States, and the articles which by other arrangements shall be exempt from duty; all these are fully set out in the Returns.

In the Virgin Islands the laws relating to the collection of Customs duties were consolidated and the fees for clearance, permits, boarding, &c. altered.

The Excise duty on rum has also been fixed at one uniform rate of 3*s.* for every gallon of the strength of proof by Sykes' hydrometer except that in Antigua it has been made 3*s.* 3*d.* for every such gallon. In Dominica the fee for a still license was raised to 25*l.*

By the passing of the eleven Acts or Ordinances necessary to effect the above changes in the Customs and Excise duties 165 Acts were totally repealed while many others were repealed in part. In Antigua the Land tax has been raised to 5*s.* an acre on land, used for the growing of sugar cane, other kind of land having to pay from 3*d.* to 1*s.* an acre, according to the purpose for which it is used.

In St. Kitts a statistical tax, under which certain duties are payable by owners of cane land on the produce of their land, was imposed. A trade tax was levied in Antigua, every importer having to pay at the rate of 4*s.* for every 40 cubic feet delivered. In Dominica the dues payable on goods landed were increased and made to include those formerly payable under the Piers and Wharves Act. The piers and wharves dues payable in St. Kitts were also increased.

The annexed statement shows the amounts per head of the population of each Presidency, and of the Colony, collected and expended under specified heads.

STATEMENTS showing the AMOUNTS per head of the population of each PRESIDENCY and of the COLONY collected and expended under specified heads:—

—	Population on Dec. 31 1892.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Value of.	
				Imports.	Exports.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua - -	36,818	1 8 6½	1 7 4	5 2 0½	6 15 7
St. Kitts-Nevis -	48,488	0 19 5¾	0 19 2	3 15 1	4 14 6¼
Dominica - -	27,397	0 16 6¾	0 18 9	2 4 9	1 10 0¼
Montserrat - -	12,072	0 12 7¼	0 12 1¾	2 4 4⅓	2 12 4½
Virgin Islands -	4,816	0 5 8	0 8 1½	0 19 3½	0 14 2½
Colony -	129,591	1 0 3½	1 0 3¾	3 11 4½	4 5 7¾

—	Population on Dec. 31, 1892.	Customs Duties Collected.	Licenses Collected.	Rates and Taxes Collected.	Expended on			
					Collection of Revenue.	Administration of Justice, Police Prisons.	Medical Relief.	Education.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua - - - -	36,818	0 15 7	0 1 2	0 4 10½	0 1 7½	0 4 8¾	0 5 5¼	0 2 6¾
St. Kitts-Nevis - - - -	48,488	0 9 10½	0 0 11¾	0 3 3½	0 0 11	0 3 8	0 4 10	0 1 5
Dominica - - - -	27,397	0 6 1½	0 1 0¼	0 3 8½	0 1 9	0 3 8¾	0 3 4¾	0 1 7¼
Montserrat - - - -	12,072	0 5 2	0 0 6½	0 3 5½	0 0 9½	0 1 4½	0 2 3	0 1 8¼
Virgin Islands - - - -	4,816	0 1 11¾	0 0 9	0 1 1¾	0 0 8¾	0 0 9¾	0 2 4¼	0 0 7¾
Colony - - - - -	129,591	0 9 11¾	0 1 0	0 3 9	0 1 3½	0 3 8	0 4 4½	0 1 9¾

REVENUE.

The revenue, which was estimated to yield 125,936*l.* before changes were made in the fiscal arrangements of the Colony, gave 131,472*l.*, or 20,186*l.* more than in 1891 (which was a bad year), and 12,113*l.* more than in 1890.

With the present sources of revenue the yield of 1892 may, I think, be taken as a somewhat low average revenue.

Presidency.	Estimated 1892.	Actual Receipts.	
		1892.	1891.
	£	£	£
Antigua - -	47,424	52,551	43,506
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	45,151	47,231	38,209
Dominica - -	24,045	22,716	21,533
Montserrat - -	7,457	7,609	6,526
Virgin Islands - -	1,859	1,365	1,512
Total - -	125,936	131,472	111,286

Except in the Virgin Islands, where the revenue continues to fall off, there was an increase of the receipts in each Presidency, as shown hereunder:—

—	Excess over 1891.	Excess over 1890.
	£	£
Antigua - - - -	9,045	6,217
St. Kitts-Nevis - - -	9,022	4,275
Dominica - - - -	1,183	1,142
Montserrat - - -	1,083	876

The Customs returned 64,669*l.*, as against the 64,300*l.* estimated for and as against 60,371*l.* received in 1891. The duties on alcoholic liquors gave 12,193*l.*, those on other imports 52,476*l.* In Antigua the amount (7,303*l.*) obtained from alcoholic imports was 700*l.* less than the anticipated receipts, but the loss was more than made up by the increase produced by excise, which gave 3,711*l.*, as against an estimate of 1,500*l.* The excise duties, which were estimated to yield 11,400*l.*, gave 12,966*l.*

Port and harbour dues, under the revised scales at St. Kitts, Dominica and Montserrat, returned an increase of 3,259*l.* over the receipts of last year, when the total was 5,174*l.* Under the head of Taxes we obtained 22,918*l.*, as against 14,202*l.* in the previous year; the increase, 8,716*l.*, is the product of the revised land tax in Antigua, and of the newly-created statistical tax in St. Kitts-Nevis combined with a better collection of the House and Land tax in Dominica. There was a falling off in the amount of the rates collected; this was due to the abolition of the Parochial tax in Antigua. The amounts received in each Presidency are detailed in the statement appended:—

Heads of Receipt.		Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total for the Colony.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Import duty on other than alcoholic liquors - -	1891	20,668	17,816	8,858	2,360	408	50,110
	1892	21,394	20,558	7,399	2,671	454	52,476
Import duty on alcoholic liquors	1891	6,680	2,135	596	490	60	10,261
	1892	7,303	3,409	998	456	27	12,193
1. Customs (total) - -	1891	27,348	20,251	9,454	2,850	468	60,371
	1892	28,697	23,967	8,397	3,127	481	64,669
2. Port, Harbour dues -	1891	1,247	2,640	836	8	443	5,174
	1892	1,817	4,355	1,645	308	308	8,433
Excise - - -	1891	1,830	3,508	3,519	858	—	9,715
	1892	3,711	4,086	4,127	1,042	—	12,966
Taxes - - -	1891	3,623	4,358	4,269	1,715	237	14,202
	1892	8,457	7,194	5,011	1,983	273	22,918
Licenses - -	1891	2,076	2,584	1,537	423	202	6,822
	1892	2,206	2,403	1,407	389	185	6,590
Rates - - -	1891	1,449	762	85	92	—	2,388
	1892	505	810	87	108	—	1,510
Miscellaneous - -	1891	918	948	686	60	53	2,665
	1892	870	933	751	68	63	2,685

Heads of Receipt.		Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total for the Colony.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
3. Internal Revenue (total) -	1891	9,896	12,160	10,096	3,148	492	35,792
	1892	15,749	15,426	11,383	3,590	521	46,669
4. Fees of Court - -	1891	2,992	1,112	446	223	69	4,842
	1892	4,112	1,528	510	280	31	6,461
5. Post Office - -	1891	1,827	1,557	651	250	23	4,308
	1892	2,095	1,668	685	280	18	4,746
6. Rents - - -	1891	63	364	5	—	5	437
	1892	69	80	24	—	3	176
7. Interest - - -	1891	110	41	1	32	—	184
	1892	—	18	—	—	—	18
9. Miscellaneous - -	1891	23	84	44	15	12	178
	1892	12	189	72	24	3	300
Total 1891 - - £		43,506	38,209	21,533	6,526	1,512	111,286
Total 1892 - - £		52,551	47,231	22,716	7,609	1,365	131,472

EXPENDITURE.

Exclusive of the amount expended upon Public Works to be defrayed from Loan funds and of the several works for which loans have been specially and specifically raised, the Colony's expenditure for the year was 131,745*l.*, or 273*l.* more than the receipts.

In Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis the expenditure was well within the revenue, but in Dominica, Montserrat and the Virgin Islands the disbursements were not covered by the receipts. In Montserrat the deficit would have been reduced to a minimum had the Customs duties collected for that island in other parts of the Colony been credited to its Treasury. The Virgin Islands' deficit is mainly due to loss of the revenue formerly derived from the sale of their postage stamps which were largely sought after by philatelists for whom they have a strange fascination, there is however, reason to hope that a more systematic and vigorous collection of the revenue, aided by the amended customs and road ordinances, will produce a more satisfactory condition of things. In Dominica more than one-third of the excess 2,359*l.*, arose under Hospitals and Charitable Institutions, while of the balance, 577*l.* was made up under Treasury and Police, smuggling rendering the collection of customs more costly and necessitating the employment of an increased number of police. Below I show the estimated and actual expenditure of each Presidency and also a comparison between the receipts and disbursements.

Presidency.	Estimated 1892.	Actual Expenditure.	
		1892.	1891.
	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	45,958	50,373	47,309
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	45,025	46,506	45,221
Dominica- - -	23,335	25,075	24,937
Montserra - -	7,060	7,832	7,303
Virgin Islands - -	1,833	1,959	2,210
Total - -	123,211	131,745	126,989

Presidency	Revenue, 1892.	Expenditure, 1892.	Revenue. Over	Revenue. Under
			Expenditure.	
	£	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	52,551	50,373	2,178	—
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	47,231	46,506	725	—
Dominica - -	22,716	25,075	—	2,359
Montserrat - -	7,609	7,832	—	223
Virgin Islands - -	1,365	1,959	—	594
Total -	131,472	131,745	2,903	3,176

The above show that the expenditure of 1892 was 8,534*l.* more than was estimated and 4,756*l.* more than that of 1891. To account for the excess on the estimates I have only to point out that on hospitals and other charitable institutions the amounts over spent in each Presidency total up to 3,572*l.*, while the amount similarly over spent in education figures at 1,783*l.*, and with regard to the excess over 1891 it will be seen from the statement hereafter given that while 21,502*l.* and 10,442*l.* were the amounts spent in 1892 on charitable institutions and on education respectively the amounts similarly spent in 1891 were 18,956*l.* and 7,056*l.* only. 5,192*l.* is thus accounted for, and the balance, 2,622*l.* is shown to have been caused by the extra disbursements for Post Offices telephones and sanitation. There were of course excesses on other votes which had to be covered by supplementary estimates on the completion of the year, but the savings on some of the heads of disbursement more than covered such excesses, and the services above mentioned were the actual cause of the disparity between the expenditure of the two years and of the excess over the estimate.

Heads of Expenditure.		Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total for the Colony.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Charge on account public debt	1891	807	1,139	1,709	218	—	3,873
	1892	1,326	1,833	2,377	457	—	5,993
Pensions - - -	1891	904	2,523	641	117	135	4,320
	1892	994	2,483	664	133	135	4,409
Legislature - - -	1891	75	100	50	—	5	230
	1892	75	100	50	—	5	230
Commissioner - - -	1891	164	792	675	469	387	2,487
	1892	163	799	729	548	406	2,645
Federal contribution - -	1891	3,017	3,971	2,405	916	289	10,598
	1892	4,359	2,635	2,486	996	307	10,783
Treasury and Customs -	1891	2,881	2,130	2,094	353	168	7,626
	1892	3,023	2,318	2,403	486	175	8,405
Audit - - - -	1891	170	50	—	—	—	220
	1892	170	50	—	—	—	220
Port and Marine - -	1891	556	109	41	24	—	730
	1892	549	165	31	46	—	791
Registrar, &c. - - -	1891	859	884	701	31	212	2,678
	1892	832	949	691	24	7	2,503

Heads of Expenditure.		Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total for the Colony.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Magistrates - - -	1891	929	1,597	626	24	13	3,189
	1892	1,054	1,736	693	24	13	3,520
Police - - - -	1891	3,538	3,123	1,787	365	39	8,802
	1892	3,591	2,954	2,066	364	36	9,011
Prisons - - -	1891	2,330	1,589	728	179	143	4,969
	1892	1,873	1,652	902	163	57	4,647
Medical - - -	1891	2,266	2,167	1,385	460	215	6,493
	1892	2,253	2,248	1,617	478	291	6,887
Hospitals - - -	1891	7,447	7,799	2,519	915	276	18,956
	1892	7,786	9,512	3,037	890	277	21,512
Education - - -	1891	2,671	2,074	1,542	650	119	7,056
	1892	4,501	2,897	1,980	934	130	10,442
Ecclesiastical - - -	1891	204	282	—	459	12	957
	1892	167	256	—	459	12	894
Board of Health - -	1891	2,677	759	509	184	—	4,129
	1892	2,905	1,630	611	148	—	5,294
Registration, Vaccination -	1891	294	561	44	45	20	964
	1892	314	542	39	95	14	1,004
Public Market - -	1891	204	53	12	35	—	304
	1892	215	50	14	36	—	315

Public Library - -	1891	180	198	—	50	—	428
	1892	180	259	—	50	—	489
Laboratory - - -	1891	403	31	—	—	—	434
	1892	405	378	—	—	—	783
Military - - -	1891	1,259	50	—	—	—	1,309
	1892	1,429	50	—	—	—	1,479
Miscellaneous - - -	1891	1,265	790	1,208	598	84	3,945
	1892	1,069	3,150	692	366	1	5,278
Post Office - - -	1891	1,441	1,287	743	193	50	3,714
	1892	2,405	1,509	759	257	34	4,964
Telegraphs - - -	1891	800	818	—	—	—	1,618
	1892	800	824	400	—	—	2,024
Telephones - - -	1891	533	319	—	—	—	852
	1892	1,345	450	—	—	—	1,795
Public Works Departments -	1891	1,169	853	590	131	—	2,743
	1892	1,209	870	613	141	—	2,833
„ „ Recurrent -	1891	4,460	3,772	2,050	572	26	10,880
	1892	5,381	4,207	2,220	738	59	12,605
„ „ Extraordinary-	1891	3,815	5,401	2,927	316	26	12,485
Total - - - -	1891	47,309	45,221	24,937	7,303	2,219	126,989
Total - - - -	1892	50,373	46,506	25,075	7,832	1,959	131,745

PUBLIC DEBT.

In Antigua the sinking funds for the ultimate extinction of the Immigration (1880) and New Reservoir (1885-1890.) Loans were increased during the year to 1,898*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* and 1,552*l.* 4*s.* 6*d* respectiv ly.

The funded debt was added to by further issues of 2,800*l.*, making a total of 14,000*l.* on account of Wallings' Reservoir Works, and by the transfer of 11,000*l.* to the New Public Works Loan account to cover certain scheduled public works already executed, and until this time charged against current revenue.

The St. Kitts sinking funds for (1) the Basseterre Protection (1886-7), (2) Sandy Point and Dieppe Bay Waterworks (1886), and (3) Nevis Waterworks (1889), were increased to 184*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*, 437*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, and 185*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* respectively.

The funded debt was increased by further issues on account of Basseterre Improvement Loan to 5,500*l.* and on account of the Public Works Loan to the full extent sanctioned by the Act, viz., 23,500*l.*

In Dominica the sinking funds in respect to the Waterworks and Waterworks Extension loans were raised during the year to 3,265*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* and 681*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, and that of the roads and bridges loan to 651*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* respectively.

In Montserrat one debenture of 100*l.* was redeemed in December off the 3,000*l.* Waterworks (1880) Loan under the terms of the Act by which the loan was raised.

PUBLIC WORKS.

In addition to the ordinary expenditure of 12,605*l.* upon public works, the special outlay upon the purchase of land, erection of buildings and other undertakings, was 20,623*l.* The ordinary expenditure was slightly in excess of the amount estimated for and shows an increase of 1,724*l.* on the amount spent in 1891. The following table gives the expenditure of each Presidency:—

Presidency.	Ordinary Expenditure.			Exceptional Expenditure 1892.
	Spent 1891.	Estimated 1892.	Spent 1892.	
	£	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	4,460	4,707	5,381	8,677
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	3,772	4,143	4,207	4,344
Dominica - - -	2,050	2,520	2,220	5,109
Montserrat - - -	573	546	738	2,493
Virgin Islands - -	26	40	59	—
Total - -	10,881	11,956	12,605	20,623

The exceptional expenditure in Antigua includes the purchase of land for the Industrial School for Girls at Scott's Hill, the works

necessary in connection with that school and with the boys' school at Skerrett's amounting in all to 4,067*l.*; the erection of Pobwork Bridge 982*l.*, a new pump for the water supply 740*l.*, and the erection of a school and the construction of a tramway. In the St. Kitts-Nevis expenditure the 1,165*l.* spent on relief works in Auguilla and the disbursements upon the Nevis Waterworks, church buildings, and pond swamp are included. Dominica includes the cost of the purchase of land for the Botanical Station, and of the purchase of Library buildings as well as disbursements on filter beds for the waterworks, on new roads, &c.

In Montserrat the expenditure was incurred upon the erection of keepers' quarters, for the new hospital and upon the construction of new roads.

LEGISLATION.

The General Legis'ative Council was convoked by a Proclamation dated the 6th May. It met in Antigua on the 26th May and remained in Session three days, during which time, in addition to other buisness, it passed four Bills, all of which were assented to and promulgated during the year, viz.:—

"An Act to amend the Training Schools Act of 1891," whereby the age up to which persons sent to the training schools was increased from 18 years to 21.

"An Act to amend the Bank Holidays Act of 1880," under which all banks, shops and stores in specified towns are with certain reservations, compulsorily closed on Bank holidays.

"An Act to amend the Magistrates' Code of Procedure Act, 1891," which fixes the amount of punishment which may be inflicted by magistrates on adults convicted pursuant to the principal Act of offences set out in the Schedules thereto; it also makes certain technical alterations.

"An Act to establish a Public Officers' Guarantee Fund," which abolishes the undesirable system under which public officers, in order to give bond with sureties, had to place themselves under obligations to persons with whom they, in their official capacity, had daily business relations.

In the I ocal Legislative Councils, 65 Acts and Ordinances were passed, 17 by Antigua, 14 by St. Kitts-Nevis, 12 by Dominica, 13 by Montserrat and 9 by the Virgin Islands.

In order to retain for our sugar the markets of the United States of America the Colony was obliged to accept the conditions imposed upon it by the McKinley tariff and to make a complete revision of its fiscal arrangements. Excise, Customs and land were all affected by the passing of new Acts. In putting the new Customs Acts through the several Legislatures, care was taken to secure uniformity of tariff and thus to abolish the anomalous condition of things under which each island had its own distinct tariff. It was surely an absurdity that there should be forming one Colony, several islands within easy communication of one another, some even within sight of each other, each imposing a different scale of Customs on the same kind of import.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1892.

The new fiscal Acts with the Law Revision Acts passed in each Presidency enabled no less than 1,107 Acts to be removed from the Colony's Statute Book.

In addition to the usual Appropriation Acts there were passed several Loan Acts and provision was made for the creation of Inscribed Stock.

Acts to improve the breed of horses by taxing stallions under a certain standard height, were passed in Antigua, St. Kitts and Montserrat.

In Antigua compulsory pilotage was abolished, arrangements were made for the better preservation of watercourses, streams and ponds, for determining street boundaries and for the improvement of the harbour.

Both in Antigua and Dominica the local Councils expired and new Councils were constituted during the year.

The Antigua Legislature ceased to exist on the 19th July, when its period of five years expired. Fresh elections having taken place, the new Council was convoked by Proclamation and held its first meeting on the 6th October last.

The Dominica Assembly, which was about to expire (on the 10th October), was dissolved by Proclamation on the 6th October. Fresh elections were held and a new Assembly was formed which held its first sitting on the 28th October. It has existence for three years.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

There were but few changes of importance.

The Colonial Secretary (Mr. F. Evans, C.M.G.) was on leave of absence from the 25th February to the 25th May, when Mr. C. E. Mercier, the Auditor-General, acted for him while Mr. Tibbits acted as Auditor-General.

Mr. Mercier and Mr. Tibbitts also acted respectively as Colonial Secretary and Auditor-General from 2nd June to 14th September, when Mr. Evans administered the Government of the Colony during the absence on leave of Sir W. F. Haynes Smith, K.C.M.G.

On the 18th May the Attorney-General, Mr. C. G. Walpole, was granted leave of absence. Mr. C. Halman Beard, the Solicitor-General, was then appointed to act as Attorney-General, and Mr. W. H. Field to replace Mr. Beard.

Mr. C. Musgrave was appointed Registrar at Dominica. Mr. Norman Lockhart relieved Mr. E. J. Cameron, who went on leave of absence on the 30th June as Commissioner (acting) of the Virgin Islands. Mr. W. H. Roper acted as Inspector of Schools from the 30th June to the 14th September, during the absence on leave of Mr. F. H. Watkins.

The Medical Service, to which Dr. Norris and Dr. Earle were appointed, sustained a loss in the death of Dr. Alfred Boon, an official of 18 years standing.

A matron, Miss Ledingham, was appointed to the Training School for Girls at Scott's Hill, Antigua; a curator, Mr. J. Jones,

was appointed to the Botanical Station at Dominica to replace Mr. Green, and there were other appointments and transfers of minor importance.

PENSIONS.

The names of six persons, with pensions averaging 18*l.* each, were added to the pensions list. Three deaths reduced the pension list by a sum of 44*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* The total amount annually payable by the Colony is distributed as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Antigua - - - -	994	4	2
St. Kitts-Nevis - - - -	2483	7	9
Dominica - - - -	664	0	3
Montserrat - - - -	132	19	1
Virgin Islands - - - -	134	16	2

The Pension list contains the names of two judicial officers receiving between them 1,075*l.*, of six clergymen receiving 1,411*l.*, and of 23 policemen with 208*l.* between them. The remaining 51 pensioners divided 1,815*l.*

The maximum pension payable is 800*l.*, the minimum 3*l.*, and the average 54*l.*

The oldest pensioner is 89 and has a pension of 20*l.*, the youngest is 29 with a pension of 4*l.* 16*s.* There are 17 pensioners between 60 and 70, 20 between 70 and 80, and five between 80 and 90.

The pensioner who has been longest on the list is a policeman in receipt of 33*l.* 6*s.*; he has been on the list since 1872, and is aged 67.

The emoluments on which pensions have been granted amount to 11,375*l.*

POPULATION.

In Antigua there were registered 1,515 deaths, as against 1,251 births, whereby the population was, according to the Registrar's returns, reduced from 36,380 at the end of 1891 to 36,116 at the end of 1892; but in each of the other islands the births were in excess of the deaths, and the population of the Colony shows a net increase of 857 during the year. The Census of 1890 (5th April) returned 127,723, the figures now stand at 129,591.

The islands of St. Kitts and Nevis were both visited by the "Grippe" during the year without showing an increase in the death-rate as compared with 1891, and although this epidemic certainly did affect the rate in Antigua it did not do so in such a degree as to account for the increased death-rate, which is, I think, mainly attributable to the great infant mortality.

Although the percentage of illegitimate births is high in each of the other islands, ranging from 38 in Anguilla to 64 in St. Kitts and Dominica, it reached 68 in Antigua.

I append statements giving details for each island.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1892.

Island.	Population on 5th April, 1890. (Census.)	Population on 31st Dec. 1891.	Births. (Since registered.)	Deaths. (Since registered.)	Population on 31st December 1892.	Marriages.
Antigua - -	36,119	36,380	1,251	1,515	36,116	201
Barbuda - -	580	582	—	—	582	—
Redonda - -	120	120	—	—	120	—
St. Kitts - -	30,876	31,243	1,317	1,194	31,366	161
Nevis - - -	13,087	13,163	581	350	13,394	61
Anguilla - -	3,699	3,699	92	63	3,728	10
Dominica - -	26,841	27,073	826	502	27,397	47
Montserrat - -	11,762	11,755	504	187	12,072	55
Virgin Islands -	4,639	4,719	166	69	4,816	20
Total - -	127,723	128,734	4,737	3,880	129,591	555

Island.	Births.		Deaths.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Antigua - - -	1,413	1,251	1,338	1,515
Barbuda - - -	37	—	30	—
St. Kitts - - -	1,425	1,317	1,237	1,194
Nevis - - -	622	581	450	350
Anguilla - - -	138	92	103	63
Dominica - -	838	826	510	502
Monserrat - -	485	504	403	187
Virgin Islands - -	190	166	92	69
Total - -	5,148	4,737	4,163	3,880

ECCLESIASTICAL.

The returns as amended for the year by the clergy of the various denominations to whom they were sent for correction show an increase in the numbers attending the Anglican, Wesleyan, and Roman Catholic Churches and a decrease in those attending Moravian places of worship. One new chapel (Roman Catholic) was erected in St. Kitts.

Accommodation is provided in the 139 churches for 58,520 persons, 39,480 are returned as generally attending.

Presidency.	Anglican.			Moravian.			Wesleyan.			Roman Catholic.		
	Churches.	Accommodation	Attendance.	Churches.	Accommodation.	Attendance.	Churches.	Accommodation.	Attendance.	Churches.	Accommodation.	Attendance.
Antigua - - - -	17	5,680	4,580	13	6,420	4,140	12	5,300	3,570	1	400	300
Barbuda - - -	1	250	200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Kitts - - - -	12	4,220	3,090	4	2,950	1,400	12	5,460	4,530	2	920	650
Nevis - - - -	6	2,400	2,050	—	—	—	4	2,500	2,100	—	—	—
Anguilla - - -	3	400	180	—	—	—	1	200	150	—	—	—
Dominica - - -	1	500	300	—	—	—	8	1,750	1,100	15	10,800	6,400
Montserrat - - -	9	3,030	2,560	—	—	—	5	1,250	980	1	300	75
Virgin Islands - - -	4	490	240	—	—	—	8	3,300	885	—	—	—
Total - -	53	16,970	13 200	17	9,370	5,540	50	19,760	13,315	19	12,420	7,425

EDUCATION.

In education the past year has again been remarkable for very large increase both in the number on the rolls and in the average attendance, the former rising from 17,686 to 21,507 and the latter from 8,211 to 10,188. These figures prove conclusively that the Compulsory Act of 1890 has already begun to work successfully, for in 1889 the number on the roll was 12,573 and the average attendance 6,906. The most signal advance has been made in Montserrat and Dominica. In the former island both the average attendance and the numbers on the registers have increased about 85 per cent., while, in the latter island, the addition to the registers has been, since 1890, 133 per cent., and the average attendance has risen from 1,026 to 1,794.

Marked improvement has been effected in the instruction and discipline of the primary schools, which are now better furnished and equipped than formerly. Increased grants have been made to secondary education, and the Colony has now established in each of the islands good grammar schools for boys, and in Antigua, and St. Kitts high schools for girls receive subsidies.

The number of Government students at the Female Training College in Antigua has been doubled with the view of encouraging the opening of school life to females as a livelihood.

Private schools are now under Government supervision and will be licensed in 1893. This will be the means of sweeping away many of the abuses existing under the cover of private schools in charge of exceedingly incompetent persons.

There is no doubt that the average attendance would have been even more augmented had not consideration been taken of the want of accommodation. Votes for providing primary schools were passed in Antigua, Montserrat, and Dominica.

The question of the establishment of a central technical college has been under consideration, and the sum of 2,500*l.* was voted for that purpose by the Antigua Legislature.

There are indications that the improvements in the primary schools will continue, and that the parents themselves are awakening to a better sense of their duties to their children.

The following table relates to the primary schools:—

Presidency.		Number of Schools.	Number on the Rolls.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Grants.	Private Contributions.	Total Receipts.
					£	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	1891	40	5,036	2,291	234	1,588	443	2,265
	1892	41	5,968	2,804	234	1,615	198	2,047
St. Kitts - - -	1891	30	4,812	2,197	105	1,223	135	1,463
	1892	31	5,438	2,498	111	1,392	156	1,659
Nevis - - -	1891	16	2,152	990	67	500	73	640
	1892	19	2,561	1,319	102	577	104	783
Dominica - - -	1891	22	2,784	1,247	107	1,416	21	1,544
	1892	22	4,214	1,794	123	1,801	25	1,949
Montserrat - -	1891	12	2,411	1,278	69	411	103	583
	1892	13	2,764	1,519	87	506	91	684
Virgin Islands - -	1891	5	491	208	21	123	31	175
	1892	5	562	254	20	130	109	259
Total - - -	1891	125	17,686	8,211	603	5,261	806	6,670
	1892	131	21,507	10,188	677	6,021	663	7,381

The Number of Secondary Schools with the Number of Scholars on the Rolls &c., is given below :—

		On the Rolls.		Average Attendance.		School Fees.	Government Grant.	Voluntary Subscription.	Total.
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.				
ANTIGUA.							£	£	£
Mico Training College -	1891	20	—	20	—	—	200	—	200
	1892	20	—	20	—	—	200	—	200
Spring Gardens College	1891	—	10	—	10	—	100	—	100
	1892	—	12	—	12	—	200	—	200
Grammar School	1891	57	—	57	—	400	200	—	600
	1892	43	—	43	—	400	200	—	600
Coke College	1891	37	45	37	45	—	—	—	—
	1892	37	55	37	55	1,020	200	—	1,220
* Girls' High School	1891	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1892	—	33	—	33	—	100	—	100
† Roman Catholic School	1891	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1892	13	—	13	—	—	50	—	50

* No information for 1891.

† Temporarily closed in 1891.

—		On the Rolls.		Average Attendance.		School Fees.	Government Grant.	Voluntary Subscription.	Total.
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.				
St. Kitts.							£	£	£
Grammar School	1891	6	—	6	—	—	300	—	300
	1892	12	—	12	—	—	300	—	300
Girls' High School	1891	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1892	—	35	—	33	128	75	—	203
Nevis.									
High School	1891	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1892	15	—	14	—	36	60	40	136
Montserrat.									
High School	1891	30	—	26	—	—	75	—	75
	1892	26	—	26	—	104	60	—	164
Total	1891	150	55	146	55	400	875	—	1,275
	1892	166	135	165	133	1,688	1,445	40	3,173

The training school for boys at Skerretts has made good progress; 62 additional boys were received, bringing the total up to 173, and although a large percentage of these could neither read nor write on reception, the advance made in their school work enabled the Inspector of Schools who examined the schools during the year to report "That the manual work has in no way "interfered with the school making the progress to be expected "in any primary school."

In the field work the boys take a considerable part, and they are also employed in looking after the animals on the stock farm. There is a tailor's shop on the school where all the clothing for the institution is made by the boys. The cooking and cleaning is also done by them. A drum and fife band has been established and is of good service in rendering the marching of the boys more perfect.

Five boys died in the hospital attached to the school, two of phthisis, one of dysentery, one of dropsy, and one of heart disease. Inquests were held in every case.

About 40 acres of land have been brought into cultivation during the year, making a total of about 100 acres under cultivation. Corn and provision crops have been reaped from these lands. The first series of experiments on the sugar cane with artificial manure was conducted in the year and a report of the results was published. A second series of similar experiments were also laid out to be reaped in 1893. Several additions have been made to the stock farm which, if not in itself directly remunerative, will almost immediately prove of immense advantage to the Colony in improving the breed of horses, cattle, &c.

A training school for girls was opened at Scott's Hill on the 22nd July last when a lady matron or superintendent, with special knowledge of the requirements of such an institution, was appointed.

It opened with 11 girls and increased its numbers to 29 before the end of the year. Two girls were discharged by order of the Governor, one who showed signs of leprosy was returned to her relations, and one was sent into hospital, where she remained suffering from phthisis. There were no deaths.

SKERRETTS (Boys).

Whence received.	Remaining end of 1891.	Received in 1892.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining end of 1892.	Ages of those Received.			Educational Condition of those Received.			
						8 to 10	10 to 13.	13 to16.	Neither Read nor Write.	Read and Write imperfectly.	Read and Write fairly well.	Could say Alphabet.
Antigua - - -	42	24	—	2	64	6	11	7	19	1	4	—
Barbuda - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Kitts - - -	36	8	—	1	43	2	2	4	7	1	—	—
Nevis - - -	22	4	—	1	25	—	1	3	3	—	—	1
Anguilla - - -	—	2	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Dominica - - -	5	21	—	1	25	2	11	8	19	1	1	—
Montserrat - - -	6	3	—	—	9	1	1	1	3	—	—	—
Virgin Islands - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - - -	111	62	—	5	168	11	28	23	53	3	5	1

Scotts Hill (Girls).

Whence received.	Remaining end of 1891.	Received in 1892.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining end of 1892.	Ages of those Received.			Educational condition of those Received.			
						8 to 10.	10 to 13.	13 to 16.	Neither Read nor Write.	Read and Write imperfectly.	Read and Write fairly well.	Could say Alphabet.
Antigua - - -	—	14	1	—	13	13	9	3	17	4	4	—
Barbuda - -	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Kitts - - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nevis - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anguilla - - -	—	6	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dominica - - -	—	6	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Montserrat - - -	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virgin Islands - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - - -	—	29	4	—	25	13	9	3	17	4	4	—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The Imports and Exports were valued at 1,017,613*l.*, the trade being distributed as follows:—

Countries.	Imports from	Exports to	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	221,958	65,189	287,147
British North America - - -	27,461	49,952	77,413
Barbados - - - -	23,747	1,996	25,743
Other British Colonies - - -	2,999	492	3,491
United States of America - -	155,390	378,711	534,101
Other Foreign Countries - -	15,279	40,857	56,136
	446,834	537,197	984,031
Islands of the Colony - - -	15,776	17,806	33,582
Total - - - -	462,610	555,003	1,017,613

The value of the trade of the several Presidencies or Islands forming the Colony is given in the two following tables:—

IMPORTS.

Countries.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	93,346	87,790	30,012	10,228	582	221,958
British North America - - -	10,868	13,443	302	2,848	—	27,461
Barbados - - - -	7,364	2,259	10,044	3,933	147	23,747
Other British Colonies - -	882	1,379	568	170	—	2,999
United States of America - -	65,671	70,319	14,080	5,168	152	155,390
Other Foreign Countries - -	2,017	5,632	3,759	343	3,528	15,279
	180,148	180,822	58,765	22,690	4,409	446,834
Islands of the Colony - - -	8,210	710	2,538	4,084	234	15,776
Total - - - -	188,358	181,532	61,303	26,774	4,643	462,610

EXPORTS.

Countries.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	2,765	30,292	20,886	11,246	—	65,189
British North America - -	40,056	7,904	82	1,910	—	49,952
Barbados - - - -	408	172	1,280	136	—	1,996
Other British Colonies - - -	67	296	110	19	—	492
United States of America - -	182,031	162,676	19,354	14,650	—	378,711
Other Foreign Countries - -	13,520	21,432	1,926	868	3,111	40,857
	238,847	22,772	43,538	28,829	3,111	237,197
Islands of the Colony - - -	5,894	6,410	2,527	2,785	190	317,806
Total - - - -	244,741	229,182	46,165	31,614	3,301	555,003

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1892.

Classified according to the recommendations of the Committee appointed in 1891 to enquire into the compilation of Import and Export Statistics in the Colonies, the trade was made up as follows:—

Articles.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
Live animals	8,524	3,013	11,537
Food	163,896	516,479	680,375
Drink	16,623	8,898	25,521
Narcotics	119	—	119
Raw materials	18,160	3,751	55,911
Manufactured textile articles	99,641	547	100,188
„ metal articles	31,343	262	31,605
Other manufactures	103,328	2,938	106,266
	441,634	535,888	977,522
Islands of the Colony	15,776	17,806	33,582
Coin and bullion	5,200	1,309	6,509
Total	462,610	555,003	1,017,613

The value of our trade as above classified with the various countries specified is given in the two following tables:—

IMPORTS.

Articles.	United Kingdom.	British North America.	Barbados.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals - - - -	213	68	1,570	74	5,646	1,143	8,524
Food - - - - -	17,755	21,946	9,479	779	109,425	4,512	163,896
Drink - - - - -	111,370	16	1,227	481	234	3,295	16,623
Narcotics - - - -	106	—	—	—	13	—	119
Raw materials - - -	2,863	3,166	1,099	—	10,454	578	18,160
Manufactured textile articles -	94,527	318	2,486	128	1,664	518	99,641
„ metal articles -	28,427	103	561	48	1,692	512	31,343
Other manufactures - - -	61,887	1,844	7,125	1,489	26,262	4,662	103,328
	216,958	27,461	23,547	2,999	155,390	15,279	441,634
Islands of the Colony - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	15,776
Coin and bullion - - -	5,000	—	200	—	—	—	5,200
Total - - -	221,958	27,461	23,747	2,999	155,390	15,279	462,610

EXPORTS.

Articles.	United Kingdom.	British North America.	Barbados.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Live Animals - - -	234	—	135	43	35	2,566	3,013
Food - - - -	56,822	49,587	873	336	374,588	34,273	516,479
Drink - - - -	7,189	48	—	—	8	1,653	8,898
Narcotics - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Raw materials - -	27	—	690	36	2,317	681	3,751
Manufactured textile articles -	78	—	4	—	—	465	547
„ metal articles -	107	96	16	—	1	42	262
Other manufactures - -	675	221	213	77	575	1,177	2,938
	65,132	49,952	1,931	492	377,524	40,857	535,888
Islands of the Colony - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,806
Coin and bullion - - -	57	—	65	—	1,187	—	1,309
Total - - -	65,189	49,952	1,996	492	378,711	40,857	555,003

The contributions of the Presidencies are shown below :—

IMPORTS.

Articles.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals - - - -	4,209	4,096	130	89	—	8,524
Food - - - - -	68,074	66,952	19,239	7,480	2,151	163,896
Drink - - - - -	5,979	7,364	2,433	711	76	16,623
Narcotics - - - -	116	2	1	—	—	119
Raw materials - - - -	8,180	7,145	1,973	682	180	18,160
Manufactured textile articles - -	34,101	43,501	14,714	6,621	704	9,964
„ metal articles - -	13,637	10,602	4,991	1,690	423	31,343
Other manufactures - - -	41,852	41,160	14,284	5,157	875	103,328
	176,148	180,822	57,765	22,490	4,409	441,634
Islands of the Colony - - -	8,210	710	2,538	4,084	234	15,776
Coin and bullion - - -	4,000	—	1,000	200	—	5,200
Total - - - -	188,358	181,532	61,303	26,774	4,643	462,610

EXPORTS.

Articles.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals - - - -	389	176	41	96	2,311	3,013
Food - - - - -	237,086	212,548	38,367	27,943	535	516,479
Drink - - - - -	56	8,657	15	170	—	8,898
Narcotics - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Raw materials - - - -	95	298	3,090	15	253	3,751
Manufactured textile articles - -	290	24	233	—	—	547
„ metal articles - -	150	77	22	5	8	262
Other manufactures - - -	731	992	676	535	4	2,938
	238,797	222,772	42,444	28,764	3,111	535,888
Islands of the colony - - -	5,894	6,410	2,527	2,785	190	17,806
Coin and bullion - - -	50	—	1,194	65	—	1,309
Total - - -	244,741	229,182	46,165	31,614	3,301	555,003

A comparison between the trade of the Colony in the years 1891 and 1892 is given in the next table, which also shows the value of our commercial connexion with the countries named.

Countries.	Imports from				Exports to			
	1891.	1892.	Increase.	Decrease.	1891.	1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	180,060	221,958	41,898	—	52,431	65,189	12,758	—
British North America - -	20,388	27,461	7,073	—	22,051	49,952	27,901	—
Barbados - - - -	24 039	23,747	—	292	1,614	1,996	382	—
Other British Colonies - - -	3,178	2,999	—	179	1,131	492	—	639
United States of America - -	159,695	155,390	—	4,305	296,754	378,711	81,957	—
Other Foreign countries - -	16,995	15,279	—	1,716	23,290	40,857	17,567	—
	£404,355	446,834	48,971	6,492	397,271	537,197	140,565	639
Islands of the Colony - -	14,931	15,776	845	—	15,529	17,806	2,277	—
Total - -	£419,286	462,610	49,816	6,492	412,800	555,003	142,842	639

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1892.

Excluding coin and bullion which do not figure in the 1891 returns, the value of the trade of 1892 was greater than that of 1891 by a sum of 179,018*l.* There was an increase of 38,124*l.* in the imports, and of 140,894*l.* in the exports.

The imports show an increase in cottons and woollens 12,291*l.*, haberdashery 4,659*l.*, and other articles of wearing apparel, and a falling off in flour (7,010*l.*), meal (5,402*l.*), corn (1,815*l.*), rice (1,752*l.*), and other breadstuffs. There was an increase in manures (5,073*l.*), sugar machinery (2,618*l.*), and in hardware (3,367*l.*), also in pickled fish (2,865*l.*), and pickled pork (2,781*l.*).

The increase in the exports was derived from our staples, sugar and molasses, the former showing an increase of 10,217 tons and the latter of 6,888 puncheons.

The sugar was valued at 427,594*l.*, and the molasses at 49,147*l.* There was also an increase in the exports of rum which were valued at 8,129*l.* Of the total exports the produce of the colony amounted to 522,761*l.* as against 385,374*l.* in the previous year. Foreign produce re-exported was valued at 13,127*l.*

Except in Dominica, where there was a very small falling off, amounting to 477*l.*, there was an increase in the imports of each Presidency, and with the single exception of the Virgin Islands, where there was a decrease of 906*l.* in the value of the cattle and small stock sent to the Danish Islands, there was also in each Presidency an increase of exports.

Antigua increased its imports from 167,110*l.* to 184,358*l.*, and its exports from 157,463*l.* to 244,691*l.*, St. Kitts-Nevis its imports from 161,105*l.* to 181,532*l.*, and its exports from 187,455*l.* to 229,182*l.*, and Montserrat its imports from 25,845*l.* to 26,574*l.*, and its exports from 24,339*l.* to 31,549*l.* In Dominica the exports were raised from 38,910*l.* to 44,971*l.* The imports of Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis were appreciably affected by the increased demand for wearing apparel amounting to 7,169*l.* in Antigua and 14,549*l.*, in St. Kitts-Nevis. The increase on cottons and woollens alone in these Presidencies amounted to 4,543*l.* in the former and 10,197*l.* in the latter. Machinery for the manufacture of sugar was introduced into each island as follows:—Antigua 5,071*l.*, St. Kitts-Nevis 2,488*l.*, Dominica 1,288*l.*, and Montserrat 217*l.*, and there was in each island an increase in the value of cane manures imported. The falling off in the imports of such foodstuffs as flour, meal, corn, and rice was felt in all the islands.

In the exports there was a falling off in the output of the minor industries, but in sugar, the chief staple, there was an increase in each Presidency. The exports of molasses increased in Antigua and fell off slightly in St. Kitts-Nevis. In Dominica there was an increase in the lime products, but a marked falling off in cocoa, due to failure in the crop.

A special enquiry has been made as to the cause of the failure and a report on the subject is about to be published. St. Kitts largely increased its export of rum.

The bulk of our trade was with the United States of America, whence we received imports to the value of 155,390*l.* in exchange for our exports valued at 378,711*l.* Foodstuffs, among which may be mentioned flour (49,367*l.*), meal (10,707*l.*), corn (9,231*l.*), and pork (16,583*l.*), formed our chief articles of import, but we also received pitch pine, &c. (10,372*l.*), mules (5,566*l.*), petroleum (3,546*l.*), and other articles, including cottons, woollens, hardware, tobacco, drugs and chemicals, &c. The exports were composed mainly of sugar (32,387 tons) and of molasses (1,061 puncheons).

From the United Kingdom (excluding 5,000*l.* in specie) we took imports to the value of 216,958*l.*, being an increase of 36,898*l.* on 1891, and in exchange we sent our products to the value of 65,189*l.* In all the articles which form our chief imports from the United Kingdom there was an increase except in grain, malt liquors, chemicals, and furniture, on which there was between them a falling off amounting to 3,098*l.* Cottons and woollens show an increase of 11,370*l.*, haberdashery and millinery of 5,120*l.*, sugar machinery and cane manures of 2,483*l.* and 2,975*l.* respectively, boots and shoes of 2,496*l.*, and hardware of 2,612*l.*

Our exports, which were 12,758*l.* greater than in 1891 consisted of 3,082 tons of sugar, 691 puncheons of molasses, 132,884 gallons of rum, and 397,911 lbs. of cocoa, besides lime juice to the value of 12,638*l.*

British North America increased its exports to and its imports from us. We received from this country in 1891 imports to the value of 20,388*l.*, and our exports were valued at 22,051*l*; in 1892 the imports were 27,461*l.* and the exports 49,952*l.* We received pickled fish (17,676*l.*,) white pine and spruce (3,166*l.*), and flour (2,154*l.*), and we sent sugar (2,329 tons,) molasses (6,544 puncheons), and salt (13,088 barrels). In 1891 our export of sugar was only 3 tons and of molasses 5,796 puncheons.

To Barbados we only exported goods to the value of 1,996*l.*, but we received breadstuffs (1,280*l.*), pickled fish (5,770*l.*,) manures (2,652*l.*), cottons (2,157*l.*), and other articles to the total value of 23,547*l.* Our imports from and exports to British Colonies other than those above referred to were valued at 2,999*l.* and 492*l.* respectively, and our imports from and exports to foreign countries other than the United States of America were valued at 15,279*l.* and 40,857*l.* respectively.

The trade between the islands of the colony has, with the aid of the subsidised federal steamer "Tyne," increased from 27,978*l.* in 1890 and 30,460*l.* in 1891 to 33,582*l.* in 1892.

The eight following tables show the principal articles of trade with the United Kingdom, British North America, Barbados, and the United States of America:—

Imports from the United Kingdom.

Articles.	1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Grain - - -	9,409	7,753	—	1,656
Salted and dried provisions	3,023	3,234	211	—
Confectioneries - -	4,889	6,555	1,666	—
Malt liquors - -	3,288	2,552	—	736
Spirits - - -	3,906	5,869	1,963	—
Wine - - -	1,695	2,194	499	—
Coal - - -	1,132	2,863	1,731	—
Cottons, woollens, linens -	53,376	64,746	11,370	—
Haberdashery and millinery	24,093	29,213	5,120	—
Hardware - - -	12,984	15,596	2,612	—
Sugar machinery - -	6,289	8,772	2,483	—
Boots and shoes - -	6,697	9,193	2,496	—
Drugs, chemicals, &c. -	2,307	1,839	—	468
Earthen and glass ware -	2,134	2,531	397	—
Fancy goods, toys, &c. -	2,042	2,326	284	—
Furniture - - -	1,165	927	—	238
Leather and saddlery -	2,531	3,615	1,084	—
Manures - - -	10,889	13,864	2,975	—
Packages - - -	2,039	2,764	725	—
Rope, cordage, Naval stores	1,457	1,720	263	—
Soap and tallow - -	3,825	4,235	410	—
Other articles - -	20,890	24,597	3,707	—
	180,060	216,958	39,996	3,098
Coin and bullion - -	—	5,000	5,000	—
Total - -	180,060	221,958	44,996	3,098

Imports from British North America.

Articles.	1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Fish, dried and pickled -	12,808	17,676	4,868	—
White pine and spruce -	2,202	3,166	964	—
Manures - - -	1,005	—	—	1,005
Flour - - - -	1,155	2,154	999	—
Shingles - - -	464	478	14	—
Other articles - -	2,754	3,987	1,233	—
Total - - -	20,388	27,461	8,078	1,005

Imports from Barbados.

Articles.	1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Breadstuffs - - -	3,062	1,280	—	1,782
Grain - - - -	1,779	1,084	—	695
Fish, dried and pickled -	7,061	5,770	—	1,291
Malt, spirits and wine - -	777	751	—	26
White pine and spruce -	789	441	—	348
Cottons, woollens and linens -	1,770	2,157	387	—
Oilmeal, oilcake - -	752	161	—	591
Hoops, shooks, staves -	921	1,192	271	—
Manures - - -	410	2,652	2,242	—
Other articles - - -	6,718	8,059	1,341	—
	24,039	23,547	4,241	4,733
Coin and bullion - -	—	200	200	—
Total - -	24,039	23,747	4,441	4,733

Imports from the United States of America.

Articles.	1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Mules - - -	1,327	5,566	4,239	—
Bread and buscuits - -	5,373	3,537	—	1,836
Flour - - -	56,811	49,367	—	7,444
Meal - - - -	15,316	10,707	—	4,609
Corn - - - -	10,544	9,231	—	1,313
Oats, peas and beans -	1,037	1,312	275	—
Beef (salted) - - -	2,262	2,522	260	—
Butter - - -	3,350	2,987	—	363
Cheese - - -	1,280	1,533	253	—
Fish, dried and pickled -	3,621	3,228	—	393
Hams, &c. - - -	779	1,006	227	—
Lard - - - -	1,788	2,449	661	—
Pork - - - -	12,309	16,583	4,274	—
Coffee and cocoa - -	1,005	510	—	495
Sugar refined - -	923	745	—	178
Pitch pine - - -	3,764	3,822	58	—
White pine and spruce -	5,106	6,550	1,444	—
Cottons, woollens, linens -	1,068	1,584	516	—
Hardware - - -	911	1,387	476	—
Drugs and chemicals -	1,003	899	—	104
Oilmeal and oilcake - -	6,414	6,691	277	—
Petroleum oil - -	2,945	3,546	601	—
Tobacco - - -	2,595	2,505	—	90
Shooks - - -	2,855	3,316	461	—
Shingles - - -	1,404	866	—	538
Carriages and carts - -	819	651	—	168
Other articles - -	13,086	12,290	—	796
Total - - -	159,695	155,390	14,022	18,327

Exports to the United Kingdom.

Articles.		1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891	
				Increase.	Decrease.
* Coffee and cocoa	£	13,310	—	—	—
	lbs.	749,465	—	—	—
Coffee	£	—	88	—	—
	lbs.	—	2,940	—	—
Cocoa	£	—	7,875	—	—
	lbs.	—	397,911	—	—
Fruits and Vegetables	£	1,332	878	—	454
Fruits preserved	£	836	89	—	747
Fruit Juices	£	14,428	12,63	—	1,790
Sugar	£	12,029	32,800	20,771	—
	lbs.	1,104	3,082	1,978	—
Molasses	£	5,590	1,812	—	3,778
	Puns.	1,538	691	—	847
Rum	£	3,795	7,189	3,394	—
	Galls.	54,213	132,884	78,671	—
Other articles		1,111	1,820	709	—
Total	£	52,431	65189	—	—

Exports to British North America.

Articles.		1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Sugar	£	31	26,717	26,686	—
	Tons	3	2,329	2,326	—
Molasses	£	20,832	21,936	1,104	—
	Puns.	5,796	6,544	748	—
Salt	£	658	651	—	7
	Brls.	10,340	13,088	2,748	—
Other articles	£	530	648	118	—
Total	£	22,051	49,952	27,908	7

* Not given separately in the 1891 Returns.

Exports to Barbados.

Articles.	1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Cattle - - -	310	41	—	269
Provisions - - -	803	873	70	—
Firewood - - -	155	690	535	—
Other articles - - -	346	392	46	—
Total - - -	1,614	1,996	651	269

Exports to the United States of America.

Articles.		1891.	1892.	1892 as against 1891.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Fruits and Vegetables	£	1,001	825	—	176
Fruit juices - -	£	4,087	55	—	4,032
Sugar - -	£	284,594	367,082	82,488	—
	Tons	26,428	32,387	5,959	—
Molasses - -	£	3,120	3,061	—	59
	Puns.	782	1,061	279	—
Salt - - -	£	352	135	—	21
	Brls.	5,339	2,693	—	2,646
Other articles -	£	3,600	7,553	3,953	—
Total - -	£	296,754	378,711	8,6441	4,484

The principal articles of import and of export from each Presidency of the Colony are shown in the tables appended :—

IMPORTS.

Articles.	Antigua.		St. Kitts.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic liquors	5,224	5,189	6,366	7,127	1,970	2,239	638	741	150	73	14,348	15,369
Boots and shoes	2,769	3,286	2,665	3,737	1,429	1,765	369	557	145	194	7,377	9,539
Cottons, woollens, &c.	17,223	21,766	21,721	31,918	12,323	9,536	5,136	5,440	554	588	56,957	69,248
Corn	7,400	6,299	3,828	3,188	38	37	97	42	31	13	11,394	9,579
Rice	4,135	3,364	4,344	3,965	1,186	739	215	112	88	36	9,968	8,216
Haberdashery and millinery	9,828	11,937	8,195	11,475	5,592	5,101	1,450	1,181	86	116	25,151	29,810
Hardware	5,955	7,915	5,380	5,993	2,013	4,154	962	1,347	69	137	14,379	17,746
Sugar machinery	2,718	5,071	2,834	2,488	762	1,285	163	217	—	31	6,477	9,095
Manures	5,518	8,327	5,990	7,784	1,478	1,691	154	411	—	—	13,140	18,213
Oilmeal, linseed meal	2,769	2,577	4,117	4,396	124	107	219	192	—	—	7,229	7,272
Bread and biscuits	3,132	2,087	2,401	1,398	132	114	118	91	18	33	5,801	3,723
Flour	19,956	18,875	29,412	24,636	7,165	7,582	4,226	2,419	1,315	1,552	62,074	55,064
Meal	8,850	6,295	7,030	4,443	114	80	353	86	122	163	16,469	11,067
Butter	2,749	2,232	2,561	2,159	1,169	1,171	265	209	87	69	6,831	5,840
Fish, dried and pickled	10,616	10,843	8,839	10,314	3,932	4,210	1,256	2,138	14	17	24,657	27,522
Pork, salted and dried	5,886	7,861	5,767	6,943	1,648	1,314	1,344	1,300	62	70	14,707	17,488
Other articles	45,014	52,224	38,322	48,858	17,097	16,637	5,873	6,007	1,090	1,317	107,396	146,843
	159,742	176,148	159,772	180,822	58,172	57,765	22,838	22,490	3,831	4,409	404,355	441,634
Islands of Colony	7,368	8,210	1,333	710	2,608	2,538	3,007	4,084	615	234	14,931	15,776
Coin and bullion	—	4,000	—	—	—	1,000	—	200	—	—	—	5,200
	167,110	188,358	161,105	181,532	60,780	61,303	25,845	26,774	4,446	4,643	419,286	462,610

EXPORTS.

Articles.		Antigua.		St. Kitts.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
		1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Produce of the Colony.													
* Coffee and cocoa	£	—	—	45	—	13,811	—	9	—	—	—	13,865	—
	lbs.	—	—	1,500	—	777,704	—	195	—	—	—	779,399	—
Coffee	£	—	—	—	30	—	271	—	—	—	—	—	301
Cocoa	£	—	—	—	—	—	8,428	—	9	—	—	—	8,437
Fruits and vegetables	£	1,178	840	324	197	606	556	326	361	408	349	2,842	2,303
Fruits, preserved	£	536	31	345	—	530	414	275	77	—	—	1,686	522
Fruit, juices	£	37	19	52	52	9,023	11,200	9,418	4,859	—	—	18,530	16,130
Sugar	Tons	12,091	15,302	12,890	17,869	1,636	2,215	1,035	2,500	25	8	27,677	37,894
	£	129,909	199,719	148,355	190,586	9,816	16,612	10,017	20,559	294	118	298,391	427,594
Molasses	Puns.	5,059	10,343	3,686	4,812	188	162	198	695	—	—	9,124	16,012
	£	17,160	34,909	14,742	12,030	470	471	638	1,737	—	—	33,010	49,147
Rum	Gals.	—	—	74,401	149,695	498	171	—	1,879	—	—	74,899	151,745
	£	—	—	5,208	7,946	36	13	—	170	—	—	5,244	8,129
Cattle and small stock	£	18	—	32	18	99	30	568	85	3,170	2,264	3,887	2,397
Essential oils and essences	£	—	—	—	—	1,049	83	567	399	—	—	1,616	482
Salt	Barls.	—	—	30,436	24,495	—	—	—	—	96	76	30,532	24,571
	£	—	—	1,876	1,230	—	—	—	—	5	4	1,881	1,234
Turtle, tortoise and tortoise shell	£	412	165	104	112	17	3	2	5	2	—	537	285
Other articles	£	466	682	929	829	1,482	3,438	638	483	370	368	3,885	5,800
		149,716	236,365	172,012	213,030	36,939	41,519	22,458	28,744	4,249	3,103	385,374	522,761
Foreign produce re-exported	£	2,050	2,432	9,055	9,742	440	925	46	20	306	8	11,897	13,127
Islands of the Colony	£	5,697	5,894	6,388	6,410	1,531	2,527	1,835	2,785	78	190	15,529	17,806
Coin and bullion	£	—	50	—	—	—	1,194	—	65	—	—	—	1,309
		157,463	244,741	187,455	229,182	38,910	46,165	24,339	31,614	4,633	3,301	412,800	555,003

* Not shown separately in 1891 Returns.

13.—Gaols and Prisoners.

The Gaol Returns, which I have been unable to reconcile with the "Criminal Statistics," show that 1,685 persons were committed to prison in 1892, 1,530 for purposes of penal imprisonment, 154 for safe custody, or for want of security, and 1 for debt. Of those committed 978 were men, 702 women, and 5 juveniles; 335 had been previously convicted once, 159 twice, and 365 thrice or more. One thousand four hundred and fourteen were convicted for three months or less, 78 for more than three months or less than one year, 35 for one year or more, but under five years, and three for five years or more. Among the three who were committed for five years is included a woman who was convicted of murder and executed.

The admissions to hospital, which are returned at 182, were 126 under those of the previous year. The punishments, 1,178, were also less numerous than in 1891, when they were returned at 1,444.

In the Antigua Gaol the punishments, 881, were comparatively more numerous than in the other gaols; but Antigua, with a daily average of 124 prisoners, contains all prisoners sentenced to three months or more whom the other goals only keep while arrangements for their transfer to Antigua or for their release are being made. Corporal punishment was inflicted upon five prisoners in the Antigua Gaol, one having been flogged with a cat-o'-nine-tails and four birched with a tamarind rod. There were four deaths in the gaol, three in Antigua and one in St. Kitts. Coroner's inquests were held on the occasion of each death. An execution, included in the number of deaths, took place in the Antigua Gaol. No prisoners escaped.

New rules and regulations for the governance of the prisons of the Colony were made and approved during the year. The discipline in the gaols steadily improves, but—for Antigua especially—the solitary system is much needed to replace the association wards. A much more economical administration of the Antigua Gaol has resulted from the introduction of the industries mentioned in my Report upon the Returns of 1891.

14.—Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or magistrate was 16,988. In the previous year it was 16,596. The offences are made up as follows:—

—	1891.	1892.
Offences against the person -	3,793	4,224
Prædial larceny - - -	1,377	796
Against property other than prædial larceny - - -	2,512	1,915
Other offences - - -	8,914	10,053

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1892.

There were summoned or apprehended and brought before the magistrates 16,575 persons, 5,420 of whom were discharged for want of evidence, 3,343 dismissed on the merits of their cases, 7,691 summarily convicted, and 121 sent for trial in the superior courts. These included 235 cases remaining over from 1891.

Nature of Offence.	Reported to the Police.	Apprehended or summoned,				
		Discharged for want of Evidence.	Dismissed on merits.	Summarily Convicted.	Sent for Trial.	Total.
Offences against the person - -	4,224	1,509	1,073	1,518	62	4,162
Prædial larceny -	796	271	114	393	—	778
Offences against property other than prædial larceny - -	1,915	637	337	720	48	1,742
Other offences -	10,053	3,003	1,819	5,060	11	9,893
Total - -	16,988	5,420	3,343	7,691	121	16,575

Of the 7,691 summarily convicted, 5,166 paid fines, 1,192 were imprisoned in lieu of payment of fines, 491 were peremptorily imprisoned, 44 (boys under 16 years of age) were whipped, and 798 were bound over.

The following table shows the number of cases heard in each Presidency :—

Punishment.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
Fined - - -	1,742	1,871	1,273	228	52	5,166
Imprisoned in lieu of fine - - -	343	524	279	40	6	1,192
Peremptorily imprisoned -	177	186	102	26	—	491
Whipped - -	—	20	16	8	—	44
Bound over - -	12	26	745	1	14	798
Totals - -	2,274	2,627	2,415	303	72	7,691

In addition to the 121 cases sent on for trial in the superior courts, 37 cases remaining over from 1891 were set down for hearing.

There were convictions in 78 cases, and acquittals in 49. A nolle prosequi was entered in five cases, one man died while awaiting trial, and 25 awaited trial at the close of the year.

The statistics for each Presidency are given below:—

—	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
Awaiting trial in 1891.	19	15	—	—	3	37
Committed in 1892	61	31	23	5	1	121
Total - -	80	46	23	5	4	158
Convicted - -	38	22	14	3	1	78
Acquitted - -	20	19	7	1	2	49
Nolle prosequi -	3	—	—	1	1	5
Died awaiting trial	1	—	—	—	—	1
Awaiting trial -	18	5	2	—	—	25
Total - -	80	46	23	5	4	158

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.—During the year 3,432 persons were treated in the various hospitals in the colony, 1,537 were discharged cured, 985 relieved, and 47 not improved; 456 died.

There were 1,582 medical cases with 389 deaths, 1,089 surgical cases with 43 deaths, and 188 obstetrical cases with seven deaths. The eye, ear, throat and other special senses cases numbered 573, with 17 deaths. The death-rate was highest in the Nevis Hospital (21·96 per cent.), and lowest in the Roseau Infirmary (4·09 per cent.). The total death percentage was 13·31. In Antigua the death-rate (18·47) was affected by an epidemic of influenza, which existed in the early part of the year, and to this cause it is probable that the large death-rate in the Nevis Hospital is also due. St. Kitts and Nevis were both visited by the influenza in the months of April and May. A new hospital, to take the place of the "Sandy Point" Hospital, which had become too dilapidated to repair, was opened on 31st March. It was named by the Governor the "Pogson" Hospital, in recognition of the interest shown in its erection by the late Mr. Edward Pogson, a member of the St. Kitts Executive Council. The hospital consists of three blocks of buildings, the centre one, consisting of two stories, contains 26 beds, those on either side contain 12 beds each. An operating room, dispensary, and post-mortem room, with the kitchen and other out offices form a line at the back of the main buildings. The nurses' rooms are at right angles to the two lines of buildings.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1892.

A new hospital in Montserrat is in course of erection. On its completion it will be possible to relegate paupers not requiring medical treatment to a separate building, leaving the hospital free for legitimate use.

At Portsmouth, in Dominica, a cottage hospital was experimentally opened in the latter part of the year.

There is every prospect of new hospital buildings being erected in Antigua at an early date, and an excellent site has already been selected; when new buildings are available, something may be done towards utilizing the site of the old buildings by the establishment thereon of a workhouse proper and a home for convalescing patients and others (such as ulcer cases), who, being able to work, even in a modified form, should be made, while earning remuneration for themselves, to contribute towards the cost of their keep. I append tables, showing the numbers treated in each hospital and other details:—

		Remaining at beginning of 1892.	Admitted in 1892.	Discharged.			Dead.	Remaining at end of 1892.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Antigua	Male	77	682	200	361	—	129	69
	Female	41	575	139	294	—	125	58
Cunningham	Male	31	503	352	100	2	57	42
	Female	54	473	293	78	6	75	56
Pogson	Male	18	106	70	34	2	4	14
	Female	11	103	57	26	6	11	14
Nevis	Male	24	48	27	10	4	17	14
	Female	27	24	16	4	1	10	20
Roseau (Infirmary)	Male	21	227	173	36	16	11	15
	Female	15	103	68	28	8	4	7
Roseau (Yaws)	Male	8	63	52	—	—	3	16
	Female	12	68	60	—	—	—	20
Montserrat	Male	29	11	13	7	—	3	25
	Female	54	23	17	6	2	7	37
Virgin Islands	Male	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Female	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		423	3,009	1,537	985	47	456	407

—	Antigua.		Cunningham.		Pogson.		Nevis.		Roseau Infirmary.		Yaws Hospital, Roseau.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Medical - -	745	214	414	117	114	15	58	21	139	13	—	—	111	9	1	—	1,582	389
Surgical -	218	16	418	15	65	—	55	6	176	2	151	3	6	1	—	—	1,089	43
Obstetrical -	126	7	24	—	20	—	4	—	14	—	--	--	—	--	—	—	188	7
Special senses -	286	17	205	--	39	—	6	—	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	573	17
Total -	1,375	254	1,061	132	238	15	123	27	366	15	151	3	117	10	1	—	3,432	456

Lunatic Asylums.—One hundred and sixty-three persons were treated as insane during the year. There were 49 new cases, 26 were cured and 29 died. All the deaths occurred at the Rat Island Asylum; at the Ridge there were none. The tables given below show the numbers admitted into each asylum and the islands from which they were received:—

Rat Island.

	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining end of 1891	14	21	4	8	10	8	3	3	4	3	35	43
Admitted in 1892	14	10	3	8	2	9	—	1	—	2	19	30
Total	28	31	7	16	12	17	3	4	4	5	54	73
Sent to the Ridge	6	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	7	4
Total	22	29	6	16	12	15	3	4	4	5	47	69
Discharged	7	3	—	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	10	7
Balance	15	26	6	13	11	14	1	4	4	5	37	62
Died	5	11	—	3	3	4	—	1	—	2	8	21
Remaining end of 1892	10	15	6	10	8	10	1	3	4	3	29	41

The Ridge.

	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining end of 1891	10	10	6	4	3	1	1	1	—	—	20	16
Admitted in 1892	6	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	7	4
Total	16	12	7	4	3	3	1	1	—	—	27	20
Discharged	6	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	5
Balance	10	10	6	2	3	2	1	1	—	—	20	15
Died	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Remaining end of 1892	10	10	6	2	3	2	1	1	—	—	20	15

With a view to decreasing the death-rate in the Rat Island Asylum three nurses, specially trained in the Holberton Hospital, were appointed to attend the sick, a better hospital dietary was provided and the wants and comforts of the patients carefully

studied, nevertheless with a daily average of 78 in 1892, as against 72 in 1891, the mortality increased from 19 to 29. It is true that many of those who died were of mature age and that influenza was prevalent, there being nine deaths from phthisis alone, but, there can be no doubt that the chief cause of this great mortality is the unsuitability of the building for the purposes to which it has been put.

Leper Asylums.—There were 29 lepers in the Antigua Asylum at the end of 1892, three were admitted during the year andfo ur died. The cause of death was in each case leprosy. As already pointed out, there is no law for the compulsory segregation of lepers, while the building, set apart for their use are unsuited for the purposes.

In St. Kitts there is a law dealing with pauper lepers, and of this class 66 were inmates of the new asylum at Fort Charles at the end of the year. There were eight fresh cases admitted and 14 deaths, one from influenza, three from Bright's disease, four from leprosy, one from diarrhœa, one from dysentery, one from gastro-enteritis, one from dropsy, and one a child born in the asylum, from congenital syphilis. Nearly all the inmates of the asylum, patients and nurses, were attacked with the "grippe" which prevailed in April and May. It proved fatal in the case of one patient.

Leper Asylums.

—	Antigua.			St. Kitts.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining end of 1891 - -	12	18	30	45	27	72
Admitted in 1892 -	3	—	3	5	3	8
Total - -	15	18	33	50	30	80
Discharged -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Died - -	1	3	4	11	3	14
Remaining end of 1892 - -	14	15	29	39	27	66

Poor Houses.—To the 280 pauper inmates of the institutions there were added 406. The discharges numbered 336 and the deaths 107, leaving 243 at the end of the year. Of the 42 deaths shown to have occurred in Antigua 30 took place in the General Hospital to which the paupers had been transferred from the Poor House for medical treatment. Out-door relief was granted to 1,326 persons, 349 males and 977 females, the sum of 1,866*l.* having been distributed.

Poor Houses.

—		Remaining at end of 1891.	Admitted in 1892.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining at end of 1892.	Numbers receiving outdoor relief.
Antigua	Male	27	54	37	26	18	54
	Female	49	40	46	16	27	140
St. Kitts	Male	29	32	41	—	20	131
	Female	17	40	37	—	20	363
Nevis	Male	5	1	1	—	5	106
	Female	1	—	—	—	1	306
Anguilla	Male	—	—	—	—	—	44
	Female	—	—	—	—	—	103
Dominica	Male	32	104	70	19	47	1
	Female	26	94	54	33	33	7
Montserrat	Male	29	11	20	3	17	3
	Female	54	23	25	7	45	25
Virgin Islands	Male	3	3	3	—	3	10
	Female	8	4	2	3	7	33
		280	406	336	107	243	1,326

In Antigua, in addition to the indoor and outdoor relief given to the poor, some 10,000 cases were prescribed for gratutiously at the city dispensary. In the public nursery 105 young children were fed and looked after during the absence of their parents at their daily avocations. For one child one penny a day is charged and for two children of the same parent three halfpence is charged. The children are taken to and from the nursery daily. During 1892 the fees received amounted to 24*l*.

Botanical Stations.

The principal work of the year has been to place the four Botanical stations of the Colony on a satisfactory basis, but many questions of general utility have occupied the attention of the Department, including cattle disease, Antigua and Nevis, ticks, borers, scale insects, &c. A parasitic cane killer has been worked out in Dominica.

In Antigua the roads have been carefully re-constructed and subsoil drains cut under all the paths. An office, seed house, plant shed, &c. have been erected. The fibre plantations have been extended, samples of cotton, &c. have been reported on from England.

A series of manurial experiments have been commenced, the resulting vegetables having been distributed to the inhabitants of St. John's.

In Dominica there was marked progress in the general condition of the station, and the distributions of economic plants have increased. In St. Kitts the new station has been cleaned and the roads cut. About 10,000 shrubs have been planted out in the station.

The small nursery in Montserrat has been slightly extended, four entrances have been opened up. A Government fibre plantation of about 150 acres has been laid down in Anguilla.

A library and herbarium have been started and several generous contributions have been gratuitously made to them.

Twelve bulletins on various subjects of special interest to the Colony have been issued and freely distributed.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The results of the observations made and collected by the Government Laboratory, Antigua, are given in the following tables. In Antigua the average of the daily maximum shade temperature was highest in August, being 89° F. September and October following very closely with an average maximum of 88¾°. The highest shade temperature recorded on any single day was 92° F. on October 4th. Taking the average of the daily minimum temperature February is found to be the coldest month with an average minimum temperature of 67° F. the lowest temperature recorded being 60° F. on April 27–28th. The highest barometer reading was 30·353 (temp. 76°)—corrected for elevation but not for temperature—on April 6th, and the lowest 29·972° (temp 82) on November 4th.

It is of interest to compare the mean height of the barometer at different periods of the year for the past three years. It will be seen that in each year there is a high barometer in June, tending to fall pretty steadily to November and with a decided rise in December in each year. The rise of the dew point from May to August is again noticeable this year with a fall in September, a subsequent rise during October and November and a fall in December.

In the city of St John's, Antigua, the rainfall for the year at the Government Laboratory was 43·29 ins., the greatest fall recorded being 3·33 ins. in the 24 hours ending 9 a.m. on January 5th.

Taking the island of Antigua as a whole, the average rainfall for the 19 years from 1874 to 1892 inclusive was 45·62 in. so that the rainfall for the island for 1892 is 9·98 ins. below the average.

In 1874 the average rainfall on			41	stations	was 31·16in
1875	„	„	40	„	28·79 „
1876	„	„	36	„	41·98 „
1877	„	„	38	„	49·05 „
1878	„	„	53	„	47·11 „
1879	„	„	52	„	61·50 „
1880	„	„	46	„	49·69 „
1881	„	„	44	„	53·75 „
1882	„	„	45	„	33·04 „
1883	„	„	56	„	55·51 „
1884	„	„	56	„	43·98 „
1885	„	„	53	„	43·39 „
1886	„	„	55	„	47·78 „
1887	„	„	50	„	43·68 „
1888	„	„	47	„	44·23 „
1889	„	„	50	„	73·59 „
1890	„	„	45	„	33·00 „
1891	„	„	45	„	50·01 „
1892	„	„	53	„	35·64 „

No violent cyclone has passed near these islands during the past year.

Two West Indian hurricanes, both presenting some abnormal features, have been reported.

On August 15th the barometer at this station showed signs of falling, the wind being W. to N.W. and very light, the barometer remained low until the afternoon of the 17th, when it began to rise on the 16th and 17th steady southerly winds prevailed. The "Pilot Chart of the North Atlantic" (U.S. Hydrographic Office) contains the following note:—"Dates received seem to indicate that "the recent August hurricane followed a very unusual track in the "tropics, moving, apparently, in a south-westerly direction towards "St. Thomas before taking the usual north-westerly track."

The second storm was the one which passed over Trinidad on October 6th and followed a course along the northern coast of South America. A hurricane on so low a latitude is unusual. On October 22nd there were threatening appearances in Dominica, the barometer rapidly fell $\frac{2}{10}$ cf an inch and heavy gusts of wind from eastward, force 9 to 10 (Beaufort's scale) followed. As no report of bad weather was received from elsewhere it is probable the disturbance was quite local.

The following is from the Meteorological Register kept at the Government Laboratory, St. John's, Antigua:—

Date.	Thermometer.				Dew Point.		Thermometer		Barometer.		Rainfall.
	Dry.		Wet.		9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Max.	Min.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	
	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.							
January	78	80¾	72½	73	68½	67½	84	68½	30·203	30·125	5·64
February	77	81	70	71½	64½	65	84¾	67	30·190	30·121	0·91
March	83½	82¾	71¾	72¾	66	65	86½	69½	30·207	30·142	1·02
April	80½	82	71	72	65	64½	86	71	30·227	30·171	1·59
May	81	82	74½	75	70½	70	85½	74	30·218	30·165	1·99
June	83	84½	75½	72	70	70	87	74½	30·258	30·222	3·77
July	83	85½	72½	77	71	71	88	74¾	30·250	30·226	3.87
August	84	86	77	76¾	72	70	89	74¾	30·177	30·145	2·58
September	83¾	85	76	76	70½	71½	88¾	73	30·190	30·140	4·68
October	83¾	85	76½	77	71¾	72	88¾	73	30·152	30·089	5·22
November	80½	82½	75½	76	72	71½	85	71	30·120	30·055	10·03
December	79	81	72½	73	68	68	84½	70	30·190	30·130	1·99
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43·29

Post Office.

Omitting from consideration the transactions of our inland postal service the total number of articles which passed through the Post Offices in 1892 was 486,281, made up as follows:—

	Received.	Despatches.
Letters and cards - - -	169,453	157,894
Papers and books - - -	122,357	29,720
Parcels post - - - -	5,485	1,372

From the United Kingdom we received 43,221 letters and cards, 73,881 papers and books, and 4,252 articles by parcels post.

From the United States of America we received 20,430 letters and cards, 23,040 papers and books, and 351 articles by parcels post.

To the United Kingdom we sent 35,564 letters and cards, 7,831 papers and books, and 821 articles by the parcels post.

To the United States of America we sent 15,106 letters and cards 1,972 papers and books, and 59 articles by parcels post.

The number of articles registered was 8,648, unpaid and taxed letters numbered 3,596 ; there were 529 "dead letters" returned to the Colony and 126 returned from the Colony.

The money order transactions amount to 80,872*l.*, the orders issued in the Colony amounting to the value of 72,216*l.*, and those paid to 8,656*l.* On the United Kingdom we drew 48,007*l.*, and on the United States of America 14,059*l.* We paid for these countries 990*l.* and 670*l.* respectively. On Canada, which has only recently entered into our money order system, we drew 584*l.* On Barbados we issued orders to the value of 3,252*l.* and we paid for orders drawn on us 241*l.*

Between the islands forming the Colony money orders passed to the extent of 10,848*l.*

The transactions of each office are shown in the following table :—

Post Office.	Letters, Papers, &c.			Parcels post.	Money Orders.		
	Received.	Sent.	Total.		Drawn.	Paid.	Total.
					£	£	£
Antigua - -	117,124	75,705	192,829	3,215	36,414	2,716	39,130
St. Kitts - -	87,782	57,652	145,434	1,703	6,514	3,046	9,560
Nevis - - -	10,986	7,004	17,990	382	4,175	399	4,574
Dominica - -	49,212	29,726	78,938	930	12,664	1,730	14,394
Montserrat - -	22,673	14,789	37,462	572	12,388	736	13,124
Virgin Islands -	4,033	2,738	6,771	55	61	29	90
Total -	291,810	187,614	479,424	6,857	72,216	8,656	80,872

The transactions of the Antigua inland post have not been recorded, but in St. Kitts there were 15,597 letters delivered in the town of Basseterre and 55,291 in other parts of the island. In Dominica and Nevis the deliveries were 23,855 and 35,413 respectively.

In Antigua arrangements have been made for the erection of pillar post boxes in the city of St. John.

The telephone has been working successfully throughout the year in the islands of Antigua and St. Kitts. Its introduction into Dominica and Montserrat would be of great advantage to those islands. A proposal to establish telephonic connexion between the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis has been under consideration.

In Antigua there are three telephone exchanges. At the city exchange there were 124,693 cases. At the Parham and All Saints exchanges, where a record of cases was only instituted in December, 2,739, and 1,754 calls were noted. There were 137 instruments at work, 283 miles of wire in use, and 86 miles of road traversed. I have no particulars from St. Kitts. The post office expenditure for the year was 4,963*l.* and the receipts 4,746*l.* including revenue from telephone. The telephone expenditure was 1,795*l.*, the receipts (Antigua only) were 643*l.*

Savings Banks.

At the end of the year there was a sum of 56,755*l.* to the credit of 2,379 depositors. Of this sum 52,051*l.* was invested in various securities. The credit balance was increased during the year by 702*l.* The deposits amounted to 19,588*l.*, and the withdrawals to 18,927*l.* The number of depositors increased, but, as will be seen from the following statement, both deposits and withdrawals were less that in 1891:—

Bank.	No. of Depositors.		Amount Deposited.		Amount Withdrawn.		Amount to credit.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	1,490	1,635	14,708	12,484	15,593	12,771	39,409	39,123
St. Kitts - - -	271	310	2,836	3,930	3,387	2,563	6,126	7,493
Nevis - - -	72	80	643	680	700	645	3,172	3,207
Dominica - - -	240	240	2,356	1,246	2,115	1,520	4,774	4,500
Montserrat - -	98	114	2,440	1,218	2,416	1,418	2,572	2,432
Virgin Islands - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - -	2,171	2,379	22,983	19,558	24,211	18,927	56,053	56,755

Divided among the depositors, the total amount banked would give to each 23*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* The average amount of deposits in given sums is shown below :—

Number of Depositors.	In sums of	Amounting to	Average.
		£	£ *s.* *d.*
739	Under 1*l.* - -	204	5 6
879	1*l.* to 10*l.* - -	3,328	3 15 9
254	10*l.* to 20*l.* -	3,513	14 6 9
233	20*l.* to 50*l.* - -	7,127	30 11 9
118	50*l.* to 100*l.* - -	8,173	69 5 3
156	Over 100*l.* - -	34,410	220 6 11
2,379	———	56,755	23 8 8

A comparison between the number of depositors in each bank in 1891 and 1892 is given in the following table : —

Bank.	Under 1*l.*		1*l.* to 10*l.*		10*l.* to 20*l.*	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Antigua - -	533	583	636	605	132	165
St. Kitts - -	49	60	97	109	34	35
Nevis - -	4	8	26	33	7	7
Dominica - -	49	50	103	98	31	36
Montserrat - -	28	38	29	34	9	11
Total -	663	739	891	879	213	254

(*continued*)

	20*l.* to 50*l.*		50*l.* to 100*l.*		Over 100*l.*	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Antigua - -	121	121	66	62	102	99
St. Kitts - -	54	60	3	23	14	23
Nevis - -	12	10	8	7	15	15
Dominica -	27	28	17	17	13	11
Montserrat -	16	14	7	9	9	8
Total -	230	233	121	118	153	156

The lodgments by means of penny postage stamps, under the Penny Savings Bank arrangements, introduced in 1891, amounted to 32*l.* 10*s.*, being an average of 2*l.* 14*s.* a month. This means that 54 lodgments a month were made by persons who previously did not make any savings.

GENERAL.

In concluding this report I take the opportunity of referring briefly to some of the reforms carried out and work performed during the last few years, as these will, I think, serve to indicate the progress recently made by the Colony towards further development and increased prosperity.

A steam service between the islands of the Colony, which, in addition to other obvious advantages, has facilitated the introduction of our improved postal service and led to an increase in our local trade, has been brought about; a steam ferry between the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis has been established, the water supply of Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis and Montserrat has been considerably increased, the telephone has been established in the islands of Antigua and St. Kitts, new roads and bridges have been made and existing roads have been improved. Botanical stations have been created, industrial schools and a stock farm established, and compulsory primary education introduced, while technical and secondary education have received attention. The charitable institutions have been improved, a leper asylum and a new hospital have been built, another hospital is in process of erection. The prison service has been re-organised and the prison buildings improved. Streams, quarantine, sanitation, and harbour lights and buoys have each in their turn been dealt with. The interchange of money orders with Canada and a parcels post have been arranged. Our laws have undergone a much needed revision and in addition to many other measures a uniform customs tariff and unified postage stamps have been introduced. All this has not been accomplished without difficulty, but, aided by legislative bodies who have shown themselves willing to assist loyally

towards the advancement of their Colony, it has been patiently and perseveringly accomplished without any in rease in taxation other than that recently necessitated by our altered commercial relations with the United States of America.

FRED EVANS,
Colonial Secretary of the
Leeward Islands.

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